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PRISM: A PARAMETERIZED REAL-TIME IONOSPHERIC SPECIFICATION MODEL, VERSION 1.5

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This report describes PRISM Version 1.5, a parameterized, real-time ionospheric specification model. PRISM was developed for use at the Air Force Space Forecast Center (50th Weather Squadron) at Falcon Air Force Base. PRISM consists of the theoretical climatology model, PIM (Parameterized Ionospheric Model), and an algorithm for updating PIM electron density profiles using ground based and spaced data. PIM is based on a set of diurnally reproducible runs of theoretical ionospheric models for a broad range of geophysical conditions and for three seasons (June, December, and March/September). PRISM is capable of ingesting and utilizing data from digital or analog ionosondes, polarimeter or GPS based TEC measurements, in situ plasma measurements (electron density, electron temperature, ion composition, ion temperature, and plasma drift velocity), and auroral electron and ion precipitation measurements. PRISM 1.5 contains a number of improvements over PRISM 1.0, which was described in PL-TR-91-2299, including improved climatology, improved handling of in situ plasma data, and the ability to ingest and utilize TEC data.						
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Executive Summary

We describe the development of PRISM (Parameterized Real-time Ionospheric Specification Model), a global near real-time ionospheric specification model intended for use at the Air Force Space Forecast Center (AFSFC), also known as the 50th Weather Squadron (50 WS). We also describe PIM (Parameterized Ionospheric Model), the base ionospheric model which forms the core of PRISM. PIM consists of a semi-analytic representation of a parameterization of four separate physically based computational models of the ionosphere. PRISM uses both ground based and space based data to modify or update the PIM ion density profiles to produce a data driven specification of the state of the ionosphere. At AFSFC PRISM will provide hourly ionospheric specifications in near real time. PRISM is capable of accepting and using bottomside electron density profiles produced from automated true height analysis of digital ionograms, TEC measurements from GPS receivers, satellite based in situ plasma measurements (electron density, ion composition, electron and ion temperature, and ion drift velocity), satellite based in situ observations of precipitating electrons and ions in the high latitude regions, as well as ionospheric parameters derived from observations of airglow and auroral optical emissions. We describe the construction of PIM, and the real time adjustment process of PRISM, as implemented in Version 1.5. This is the version that will become operational at AFSFC in the fall of 1995.

1. INTRODUCTION

We have developed a Parameterized Real-time Ionospheric Specification Model (PRISM) for the Air Force Air Weather Service (AFAWS) for use at the Air Force Space Forecast Center (AFSFC, also known as the 50th Weather Squadron). The model uses both ground based and space based data available in near real time to modify a Parameterized Ionospheric Model (PIM) and thus provide a near real-time specification of the ionosphere. PIM is a composite of diurnally reproducible runs of several physical ionospheric models: (1) the Time Dependent Ionospheric Model (TDIM) of Utah State University (USU) [Schunk, 1988], (2) the low latitude F-region model (LOWLAT) developed by Anderson [1973], (3) the midlatitude version of LOWLAT (called MIDLAT) developed by D. N. Anderson and modified by D. T. Decker, and (4) an E-region local chemistry code developed by D. T. Decker and incorporating photoelectrons using the continuous slowing down method [Jasperse, 1982].

Both PIM and PRISM can produce either regional or global output. The output grid of latitude and longitude (which may be either geographic or geomagnetic) is user selectable. At AFSFC the standard PRISM output is a global grid with 1° latitude spacing and 5° longitude spacing. Profile parameters (f_oF_2 , h_mF_2 , TEC, etc.), or complete electron density profiles, or both may be output to the specified grid.

PRISM has been delivered to the AFAWS and is presently undergoing transition to operational code. PIM is in the public domain and is available for distribution to the ionospheric community. PRISM is also available to the research community upon application to the AFAWS. PIM has been distributed to about 60 users worldwide. PRISM is in use by three research groups in the United States.

1.1 *Objectives*

Our primary objective was the development of an algorithm for using near real time satellite and ground based data to provide a near real time specification of the global ionosphere. The data to be used include

- (1) bottomside digital soundings from the AFAWS Digital Ionospheric Sounding System (DISS),
- (2) Total Electron Content (TEC) data from the AFAWS Transionospheric Sensing System (TISS),
- (3) in situ plasma data (densities, temperatures, and drift velocities) from the SSIES instrument on DMSP satellites,
- (4) auroral electron and ion fluxes from the SSJ/4 instrument on DMSP satellites, and
- (5) electron density profile information deduced from observations of airglow and auroral optical emissions by instruments (SSUSI and SSULI) expected to be flown on future DMSP satellites.

The need for a global specification of the state of the ionosphere is twofold. First, there are operational systems that need to correct for ionospheric effects in real time, or that have operational parameters that are affected by the ionosphere and must be adjusted in near real time. Second, the operation of many systems could be optimized if accurate forecasts of ionospheric conditions were available because this allows the operational parameters to be chosen ahead of time. Any ionospheric forecast algorithm will require an accurate specification of the current state of the ionosphere as an initial condition, which PRISM provides.

In addition to real time needs, many system operators need post-event analysis to determine whether operational problems or outages were caused by system problems or by environmental conditions. PRISM will be used for this purpose at AFSFC as well.

1.2 Approach

Ideally, the specification of the current state of the ionosphere would be obtained directly from real time observations from a dense network of satellite and ground based instruments. Unfortunately, the complexity and spatial extent of the ionosphere precludes the deployment of a sufficiently dense network of observing instruments. Therefore, any practical ionospheric

specification algorithm must be based on an ionospheric model with parameters that can be adjusted on the basis of near real time data. Two approaches are possible: (1) statistical or empirical climatological models or (2) numerical simulations based on physical models. (In this paper "physical model" is synonymous with "numerical model.") For reasons described below, we have chosen the second approach (physical models). However, practical considerations (primarily computational speed) dictate that the algorithms implemented at the Space Forecast Center be based on *parameterized* versions of the physical models ("theoretical climatology").

We feel strongly that a comprehensive physical model of ionospheric processes can produce more accurate specifications and forecasts than can statistical or climatological models. The causal relationship between easily monitored solar and geophysical parameters (e.g., K_p , $F_{10.7}$, etc.) and a particular ionospheric configuration is very complex. Any organization of historical ionospheric data inevitably averages over a variety of ionospheric configurations corresponding to similar values of the chosen set of solar-geophysical parameters (usually only one or two). The result is that spatial structure tends to be smeared out or smoothed over, and the resulting model is unrepresentative of the *instantaneous* ionosphere. If a physical model contains all of the relevant physics, and if the inputs are realistic, then it will produce more realistic representations of instantaneous ionospheric structure. However, there is a difference between a *realistic* representation and an *accurate* one.

In order to accurately simulate a time dependent phenomenon like the ionosphere, a physical model needs an accurate specification of the initial conditions and an accurate representation of the energy and momentum flux at the boundaries. For the purposes of providing a specification model, it is the energy and momentum input that is crucial. If the model is run long enough, the effects of the initial conditions are lost and the present state of the model depends only on the recent history of the energy and momentum input. These include the solar EUV (the primary source of ionization outside the auroral zone), high latitude heating of the thermosphere (which affects the global circulation of the thermosphere), high latitude convection, and low latitude dynamo electric fields. While the temporal and spatial resolution of the observations of these quantities are expected to improve in the future, they will probably never be sufficient to

allow accurate simulation of the ionosphere without additional data. As a practical matter, ionospheric simulations must be, and will remain, iterative in nature: The energy and momentum input parameters are adjusted until the simulation agrees with observations of ionospheric parameters to some level of accuracy.

A practical consequence of this situation is that the production of an accurate ionospheric specification based on a numerical simulation requires that the physical model be run several (perhaps many) times until its output agrees with the available observations. The requirement that the model cover a sufficient time period to allow the transient effects of the initial conditions to damp out implies that the physical model must run much faster than the system it is simulating. At the present time, given practical (i.e., financial) limits on the available computing power, this is not possible. Consequently, we have adopted a modified approach in which the physical models are parameterized in terms of solar and geophysical parameters. It is these parameterized models rather than the original physical models which are to be adjusted according to the real time ionospheric data.

There is a superficial similarity between our approach and a climatological approach. The difference, however, is that we begin with a more realistic representation of the spatial structure of the ionosphere than climatological models can provide. The parameter adjustment process should not compromise this advantage. In the future, as more powerful computers and more efficient model algorithms become available, the parameterized models can be replaced by actual physical models to produce more accurate specifications.

2. THE PHYSICAL MODELS

Four separate physical models were used as the basis of PRISM: (1) a low latitude F layer model (LOWLAT), (2) a midlatitude F layer model (MIDLAT), (3) a combined low and middle latitude E layer model (ECSD), and (4) a high latitude E and F layer model (TDIM). All four models are based on a tilted dipole representation of the geomagnetic field and a corresponding magnetic coordinate system. (Hereafter, "latitude" means "magnetic latitude" unless otherwise noted.) All four models use the MSIS-86 neutral atmosphere model [Hedin, 1987]. Chemical reaction rates, collision frequencies, and similar data are consistent among all the models.

2.1 The Low Latitude F Layer Model

The low latitude F region model (LOWLAT) was originally developed by Anderson, [1973]. (See also Moffett, [1979]). It solves the diffusion equation for O^+ along a magnetic flux tube. Normally, the entire flux tube is calculated with chemical equilibrium boundary conditions at both feet of the flux tube. A large number of flux tubes must be calculated in order to build up an altitude profile.

Since heat transport is not included in this model, ion and electron temperature models must be used. For the PRISM development effort we chose the temperature model of *Brace and Theis* [1981]. The Horizontal Wind Model (HWM) of *Hedin* [1988] was used to describe thermospheric winds.

The critical feature incorporated in the low latitude model is the dynamo electric field. The horizontal component of this field drives upward convection through $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ drift, and this can significantly modify profile shapes and densities. This phenomenon is responsible for the equatorial anomaly, crests in ionization on either side of the magnetic equator at $\pm 15-20^{\circ}$ magnetic latitude. In the current version of PRISM (Version 1.5) the $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ driven vertical drift used for these calculations was based on the empirical models derived from data from the Atmospheric Explorer-E (AE-E) satellite [Fejer et al., 1995], which are consistent with the drifts measured at Jicamarca [Fejer, 1981; Fejer et al., 1989] but include longitudinal variations as well. We used the Fejer et al. [1995] empirical drifts for moderate and high solar activity. Following

the their discussion, we modified these drifts by reducing or eliminating the pre-reversal enhancement for low solar activity. Horizontal drifts were neglected in the PRISM runs.

Since its original development this model has undergone extensive validation by comparison with data. The most recent such comparison is *Preble et al.* [1994] using electron density profiles measured by the incoherent scatter radar facility at Jicamarca, Peru.

2.2 The Midlatitude F Layer Model

The midlatitude F region model (MIDLAT) is the same as the low latitude version, except that the dynamo electric field is not included. Complete flux tubes are followed, but neither horizontal nor vertical convection is included. The computer resource requirements of MIDLAT are far less than those of LOWLAT. As long as the boundary between low and middle latitudes is chosen so that the electric field is negligible on the boundary flux tubes, the two models give identical results at the boundary ensuring continuity across that boundary. For the PRISM development effort we used the same temperature model [Brace and Theis, 1981] and the same thermospheric wind model [Hedin, 1988]. For appropriate production, loss, and diffusion rates for both LOWLAT and MIDLAT, see Decker et al. [1994].

2.3 The Low and Midlatitude E Layer Model

The low and mid-latitude E region model (ECSD) was developed by Dwight T. Decker and John R. Jasperse and incorporates photoelectrons calculated using the continuous slowing down (CSD) approximation [Jasperse, 1982]. Ion concentrations are calculated assuming local chemical equilibrium. A small nighttime source is included to ensure that an E layer is maintained throughout the night.

2.4 The High Latitude Model

The high latitude model (incorporating both E and F layers) is the Utah State University (USU) Time Dependent Ionospheric Model (TDIM). (See Schunk [1988] for a review.) This model is similar to the low and middle latitude models except that the flux tubes are truncated and a flux boundary condition is applied at the top. In addition, the flux tubes move under the influence of the high latitude convection electric field. In the low latitudes, because the magnetic field is mainly horizontal, the effect of the electric field is primarily to move the ionization in altitude. In contrast, the high latitude magnetic field is mainly vertical, and the electric field driven convection is horizontal. Like LOWLAT, this model has a long history and has been validated by numerous comparisons with data.

TDIM includes an E-layer model that incorporates the effects of ionization by precipitating auroral particles. The ion production rates used were calculated using the B3C electron transport code [Strickland, 1976; Strickland et al., 1994] and incident electron spectra representative of DMSP SSJ/5 data. The characteristics of the electron spectra were taken from the Hardy et al. [1987] electron precipitation model. The high latitude convection patterns were those developed by Heppner and Maynard [1987] for southward directed B_z .

3. PARAMETERIZATION OF THE PHYSICAL MODELS

Parameterization of the physical models proceeded in two steps. First, the models were used to generate a number of "databases" for a discrete set of geophysical conditions. Each database consists of ion density profiles on a discrete grid of latitudes and longitudes for a 24 hour period in UT. Second, to reduce storage requirements, the databases were approximated with semi-analytic functions. These two processes are described in the following subsections.

3.1 Geophysical Parameters

All the physical models were parameterized in terms of season and solar activity. The middle and high latitude models were also parameterized in terms of magnetic activity, while the high latitude model was additionally parameterized in terms of the sign of the interplanetary magnetic field component B_y . (The high latitude model was only run using B_z southward. Northward B_z conditions are modeled using the low magnetic activity databases.) For the middle and low latitudes, the F layer (O⁺) and the E layer (NO⁺ and O₂⁺) were computed and parameterized separately. The high latitude model (TDIM) produced all three ions simultaneously.

Due to time and computer resource limitations, only a few values of each parameter were used. The season "values" are the June and December solstices and the March equinox (which also "stands in" for the September equinox). We expect to change from seasonal to monthly values in the next versions of PIM and PRISM. The values of the other parameters are summarized for each latitude region in Table 1. Note that the USU TDIM and LOWLAT produce output in magnetic local time (MLT), while MIDLAT and ECSD produce output in magnetic longitude. Since the two coordinates are readily interconvertible, we will ignore the distinction and refer only to magnetic longitude in the description that follows.

Table 1: Geophysical Parameter Values

	Solar Activity $(F_{10.7})$	Magnetic Activity (K_p)	IMF B _y direction	Number of databases
Low Latitude F layer	70, 130, 210	N/A	N/A	36 ^a
Midlatitude Flayer	70, 130, 210	1, 3.5, 6	N/A	54 ^b
Low & Midlatitude E layer	70, 130, 210	1, 3.5, 6	N/A	54°
High Latitude E & Flayer	70, 130, 210	1, 3.5, 6	+, -	324 ^d

^a3 seasons × 3 solar activities × 4 longitude sectors

3.2 Representation of the Databases

When the models are run for any one set of geophysical parameters (e.g., June, $F_{10.7} = 130$, $K_p = 1$), they produce ion densities (O⁺, NO⁺, and O₂⁺) on a four dimensional grid. MIDLAT and ECSD use a grid of magnetic latitude (λ), magnetic longitude (ϕ), altitude(z), and Universal Time (τ). TDIM uses magnetic local time (MLT or ψ) instead of magnetic longitude, while LOWLAT uses MLT instead of UT. In order to make this mass of numbers more manageable, we produced a semi-analytical representation of each database. The space and time grid parameters are summarized for each latitude region in Table2.

Due to the computer resource requirements of the low latitude F layer code, it was used to generate databases at four discrete longitudes (corresponding to longitude sectors for which $E \times B$ drift measurements were available). Each longitude sector was parameterized separately, and the necessary longitude interpolation is carried out in PIM and PRISM during execution, as described below.)

Because we were trying to represent discrete data (rather than continuous functions), and because we were working with regional rather than global data sets, we felt that the usual spherical harmonic expansion techniques were not appropriate. Instead we concentrated on the use of orthogonal functions of discrete variables.

b3 seasons × 3 solar activities × 3 magnetic activities × 2 hemispheres

^{°3} seasons × 3 solar activities × 3 magnetic activities × 2 species

^d3 seasons × 3 solar activities × 3 magnetic activities × 2 By's × 3 species × 2 hemispheres

Table 2: Horizontal Grid Parameters

Latitude Region	Magnetic Latitude	Magnetic Longitude	UT	Number of altitude profiles per database
Low Latitude F layer	-32° to 32° in 2° steps	30°, 149°, 250°, and 329°	MLT: 0.0 to 23.5 in 0.5 hr steps	1,584
Midlatitude F layer	30° to 74° and -30° to -74° in 4° steps	0° to 345° in 15° steps	0100 to 2300 in 2 hr steps	3,456
Low and Midlatitude E layer	-76° to 76° in 4° steps	0° to 345° in 15° steps	0100 to 2300 in 2 hr steps	11,232
High Latitude E & F layer	51° to 89° and -51° to -89° in 2° steps	MLT: 0.5 to 23.5 in 1 hour steps	0100 to 2300 in 2 hr steps	5,760

We considered the use of modified Chapman functions for representing altitude profiles of ion densities. These functions have the advantage that peak height and peak density are explicit parameters, but the extremely non-linear nature of these functions necessitates the use of non-linear least squares fitting methods. While such methods produced excellent representations of individual profiles, the variation of the fitted parameters with latitude, longitude (or MLT), and UT was unacceptably noisy. Consequently, we chose to use Empirical Orthornormal Functions for the altitude representation.

Empirical Orthonormal Functions (EOFs) have been used extensively to represent meteorological and climatological data [Lorenz, 1956; Kutzbach, 1967; Davis, 1976; and Peixota and Oort, 1991]. They have also been used for empirical ionospheric modeling [Secan and Tascione, 1984]. EOFs are described in Appendix A. They have the advantage of providing a representation in terms of linear combinations of orthogonal functions, which allows for straightforward determination of coefficients. However, because peak density and peak height are not explicit parameters of the representation, these parameters can be determined only by reconstructing the entire profile and invoking a peak finding algorithm. We expect to revisit this problem in future versions of PIM and PRISM and implement a new representation that combines

the attractive features of both methods, i.e., that includes peak density and peak height as explicit parameters yet relies on linear combinations of orthogonal functions to describe the profile shape.

For longitude (or local time) variations (and for the low latitude F layer UT variation), the obvious choice is a Fourier series, since trigonometric functions retain their orthogonality properties on uniform discrete grids and because the data is periodic in the independent variable. These worked quite well for the high latitude models under all conditions and for the low and midlatitude models under low to moderate solar activity conditions. However, they did not work well for the low and midlatitude models under high solar activity conditions, apparently because the EOF coefficients exhibited exceptionally large gradients at dawn and dusk. Therefore, we decided to tabulate the coefficients in longitude for all the low and midlatitude databases.

For the latitude variations, we chose to generate grid-specific orthogonal polynomials using the algorithm derived in *Beckmann* [1973] and described in Appendix B. To help keep the notation straight, we summarize it in Table 3.

Table 3. Notation Summary

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grid	variable	index	orthogonal function	index
altitude	z_i	$1 \le i \le I$	EOF: $g_m(z_i)$	$1 \le m \le M$
latitude	λ_{j}	$1 \le j \le J$	polynomial: $u_{n}(\lambda)$	$0 \le n \le N$
longitude	φ_k	$1 \le k \le K$	trigonometric ^a : $\cos(p\varphi)$ and $\sin(p\varphi)$	$0 \le p \le P$
local time	Ψ_k	$1 \le k \le K$	trigonometric ^b : $cos(p\psi)$ and $sin(p\psi)$	$0 \le p \le P$
UT	τ_i	$1 \le l \le L$	trigonometric ^a : $\cos(q\tau)$ and $\sin(q\tau)$	$0 \le q \le Q$

^aNot used for any database in PRISM 1.5, but may be used in future versions.

The semianalytic representation of each database was generated in several steps. For all ionospheric regions, the first step was the determination of the EOFs from the ion densities in the database and a set of coefficients $c_{lm}(\lambda_j, \varphi_k)$ for representing each ion density profile on the latitude, longitude, UT grid (See Appendix A).

^bUsed only for high latitude databases.

$$n_s(z_i, \lambda_j, \psi_k, \tau_l) \approx \sum_{m=1}^{M} c_m^{(s)}(\lambda_j, \psi_k, \tau_l) g_m^{(s)}(z_i)$$
 [TDIM] (1a)

$$n_s(z_i, \lambda_j, \varphi_k, \tau_l) \approx \sum_{m=1}^{M} c_m^{(s)}(\lambda_j, \varphi_k, \tau_l) g_m^{(s)}(z_i)$$
 [MIDLAT, ECSD] (1b)

$$n_s(z_i, \lambda_j, \varphi_k, \psi_l) \approx \sum_{m=1}^{M} c_m^{(s)} (\lambda_j, \varphi_k, \psi_l) g_m^{(s)}(z_i)$$
 [LOWLAT] (1c)

where z_i , λ_j , φ_k , ψ_k , τ_j , and ψ_l are all points on the model output grid, and $g_m^{(s)}(z_i)$ is the m^{th} EOF evaluated at z_i . (Note, however, that a different set of $g_m^{(s)}(z_i)$ functions are used for each ion, for each set of geophysical conditions, and for each model.)

For the high latitude model (TDIM, both E- and F-layers), the second step was the generation of Fourier coefficients in MLT, $a_{mp}^{(s)}(\lambda_j, \tau_l)$ and $b_{mp}^{(s)}(\lambda_j, \tau_l)$, for each point on the latitude, UT grid.

$$n_{s}(z_{i},\lambda_{j},\psi,\tau_{l}) \approx \sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{p=0}^{P} \left\{ a_{mp}^{(s)}(\lambda_{j},\tau_{l}) \cos(p\psi) + b_{mp}^{(s)}(\lambda_{j},\tau_{l}) \sin(p\psi) \right\} g_{m}^{(s)}(z_{i})$$
 [TDIM] (2)

For the low and midlatitude models, we found that a truncated Fourier series often introduced spurious longitudinal dependences, apparently driven by the steep gradients at dawn and dusk. The effect was particularly pronounced at high solar activity when the day/night contrast is the greatest. Consequently, for these models, the EOF coefficients remain tabulated in longitude.

For all models, the next step was the generation of orthogonal polynomials from the latitude grid (Appendix B). For the high latitude model (TDIM) the coefficients are $\alpha_{mnp}^{(s)}(\tau_i)$ and $\beta_{mnp}^{(s)}(\tau_i)$, and the ion density is approximated by

$$n_s(z_i, \lambda, \psi, \tau_i) \approx \sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{n=0}^{N} \sum_{p=0}^{P} \left\{ \alpha_{mnp}^{(s)}(\tau_i) \cos(p\psi) + \beta_{mnp}^{(s)}(\tau_i) \sin(p\psi) \right\} g_m(z_i) u_n(\lambda)$$
 [TDIM] (3a)

For MIDLAT and ECSD the coefficients are $\gamma_{mn}^{(s)}(\lambda_k, \tau_l)$ and the ion density is approximated by

$$n_s(z_i, \lambda, \varphi_k, \tau_l) \approx \sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{n=0}^{N} \gamma_{mn}^{(s)}(\varphi_k, \tau_l) g_m(z_i) u_n(\lambda)$$
 [MIDLAT, ECSD] (3b)

For LOWLAT the coefficients are $\eta_{mn}^{(s)}(\varphi_k, \psi_l)$ and the ion density is approximated by

$$n_s(z_i, \lambda, \varphi_k, \psi_l) \approx \sum_{m=1}^M \sum_{n=0}^N \eta_{mn}^{(s)}(\varphi_k, \psi_l) g_m(z_i) u_n(\lambda)$$
 [LOWLAT] (3c)

The number of terms in each series are listed in Table4 for each region.

Table 4: Altitude Grids and EOF's

Database	number of altitude points	minimum altitude	maximum altitude	number of EOF's
low latitude O⁺	55	160	1600	9
midlatitude O ⁺	49	125	1600	8
low & midlatitude NO ⁺ & O ₂ ⁺	28	90	400	7
high latitudeO ⁺ , NO ⁺ , & O ₂ ⁺	37	100	800	6

Note that in none of these cases was the altitude spacing uniform.

Because of the extensive use of tabulated coefficients, the ion density at an arbitrary point must be obtained by interpolation. In PIM and PRISM, altitude interpolation is quadratic, while UT interpolation is linear. For the MIDLAT databases, the longitude interpolation is also linear, as is the local time interpolation in the LOWLAT databases. However, the longitude interpolation in the LOWLAT databases is more complicated. First, the O⁺ profile for the desired magnetic latitude and local time is reconstructed for each of the four longitude sectors. Then the peak height and peak density is determined for each profile. The peak height for the desired longitude is determined by Fourier interpolation, and all four profiles are shifted to match the interpolated peak height. Then Fourier interpolation is used at each altitude to obtain the interpolated ion density profile.

3.3 Merging the Regional Models

Because we used four different regional models in the development of PRISM, the models must be merged at region boundaries. Specifically, the low latitude and midlatitude O^+ models have to be merged across the boundary between low and middle latitudes, while all three ions $(O^+, NO^+, and O_2^+)$ must be merged across the boundary between midlatitudes and high latitudes.

The transition from low latitude O^+ profiles to midlatitude O^+ profiles takes place between 30° and 34° in both hemispheres. The transition is accomplished by taking a weighted average of the $h_m F_2$ values from the two models in which the weight shifts linearly from 100% low latitude at 30° to 100% midlatitude at 34°. The profiles are shifted to match the averaged $h_m F_2$ values and then a similar weighted average of the shifted profiles is taken to produce the final merged profile. No transition for NO^+ and O_2^+ is necessary since a single model was used for these ions.

The transition from midlatitude to high latitude takes place over an 8° wide zone whose poleward boundary is the equatorward boundary of the trough. The transition process is similar to the low to midlatitude transition, except that the high latitude profiles are shifted to match the $h_m F_2$ and $h_m E$ values given by the midlatitude models. The final profile is produced by a weighted average of midlatitude and (shifted) high latitude profiles.

Although PIM and PRISM use geomagnetic coordinates internally, they can produce output in either geomagnetic or geographic coordinates. A contour map of $N_m F_2$ in geographic coordinates (cylindrical projection) for the June solstice at high solar activity and moderate magnetic activity is displayed in Figure 1. The equatorial anomaly is clearly visible between East longitudes 30° and 180°, corresponding to local times of 1400 and 2400. The high latitude is more clearly seen in a polar projection such as is displayed in Figure 2, again in geographic coordinates. The figure shows the northern hemisphere at the December solstice. B_y is positive, and the tongue of ionization resulting from a steady convection pattern is clearly visible on the evening side.

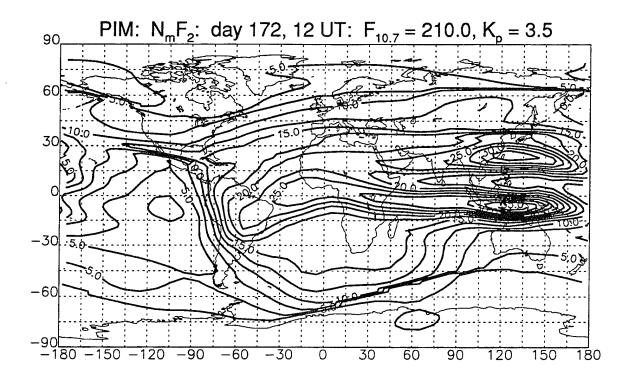


Figure 1. Contours of $N_m F_2$ (in units of 10^5 cm⁻³) in cylindrical equidistant projection from PIM for high solar activity, moderate magnetic activity, at 12 UT near the June solstice. The equatorial anomaly is clearly evident from about 1400 to 2400 local time.

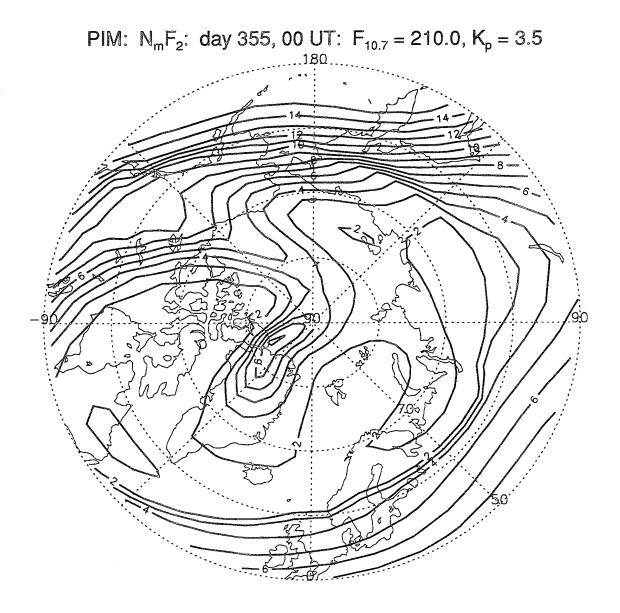


Figure 2. Contours of $N_m F_2$ (in units of 10^5 cm⁻³) in polar projection from PIM for the same conditions as Figure 2 except for 00 UT and December solstice. The "tongue of ionization" produced by a steady convection pattern is clearly evident. Local midnight is at the bottom.

4. REAL TIME ADJUSTMENT ALGORITHM

The Real Time Adjustment (RTA) algorithm for the low and middle latitude regions is different from the algorithm used in the high latitude region. This is partly due to the relatively complex morphology of the high latitude ionosphere and partly due to an evolution in our ideas about the real time adjustment process during the development of PRISM.

4.1 Available Data

The near real time data available for use in the adjustment process comes from the Digital Ionospheric Sounding System (DISS), the Ionospheric Monitoring System (IMS), and a suite of Special Sensors on the DMSP satellites. The DISS network consists of a network of digital ionosondes measuring critical frequencies, critical heights, and bottomside profiles. There are projected to be 19 DISS sites when the network is complete. The Ionospheric Monitoring System consists of a separate network of dual frequency GPS receivers measuring TEC. The number is IMS sites is not finallized but is expected to be about five. The DMSP Special Sensors include the in situ plasma properties measured by the SSIES instrument and the precipitating particle measurements of the SSJ/4 instrument. In the future, the SSJ/4 instrument will be replaced by the SSJ/5 instrument and a new set of ionospheric remote sensing instruments, SSUSI and SSULI will be added. SSUSI (a multispectral UV imager) and SSULI (a multispectral limb imager) will make measurements of dayglow, nightglow, and auroral optical emissions (mostly ultraviolet). The observed intensities will be processed on the ground to deduce ionospheric properties in the form of PRISM profile parameters [e.g., Fox et al., 1994]. The two UV imagers will be flown on DMSP beginning some time near the end of the decade.

Because TEC is an integral quantity, it is not easy to incorporate it into the PRISM real time scheme. For PRISM 1.5, we have chosen to convert TEC into an equivalent point datum. Our method for doing so is described in Appendix C.

4.2 Low and Midlatitude Adjustment Parameters

The PRISM real time adjustment algorithm operates on six parameters that prescribe how an electron density profile is to be modified or "corrected":

- 1. $\Delta f_o F_2$, the correction to the model $f_o F_2$,
- 2. $\Delta f_o E$, the correction to the model $f_o E$,
- 3. $\Delta h_m F_2$, the correction to the model $h_m F_2$,
- 4. $\Delta h_m E$, the correction to the model $h_m E$,
- 5. ΔN_{top} , the correction to the O⁺ density at a specific altitude (i.e., the DMSP altitude)
- 6. ΔH_{top} , the correction to the O⁺ scale height at a specific altitude (i.e., the DMSP altitude)

The nominal value for each of these parameters is zero. A positive (negative) value means that the model value must be increased (decreased). Using the available near real time data, the real time adjustment process will assign non-zero values at each location where data is available (the driver sites).

Parameters 1-4 are based on direct measurements by DISS digital ionosondes. Parameter 5 is based on the direct measurement of the O^+ density by the SSIES instrument on board the DMSP satellite. In contrast, Parameter 6 must be inferred from the electron and ion temperatures (T_e, T_i) measured by the SSIES instrument. At midlatitudes, PRISM assumes that the topside ionosphere is in diffusive equilibrium and calculates the topside scale height from

$$H_{top} = \frac{k(T_e + T_i)}{m_{O^+} g} \tag{5}$$

The corresponding model value is obtained from the model O^+ densities (n_2, n_1) at the grid altitudes (z_2, z_1) immediately above and below the DMSP altitude:

$$H_m = \frac{z_2 - z_1}{\ln(n_1/n_2)} \tag{6}$$

At low latitudes, the topside scale height is determined by diffusive processes alone, so the scale height cannot be inferred from the SSIES temperature data.

4.3 Real Time Adjustment of the Low and Midlatitude Profile Parameters

In PRISM 1.5, after the values of the profile adjustment parameters have been determined at each driver site, the global correction field is determined using a weighted average method.

- 1. Given N driver locations and the associated geomagnetic coordinates (λ_n, ϕ_n) , let the unadjusted PRISM value at the n^{th} point be u_n and the measured value be v_n .
- 2. The correction to be applied to the unadjusted PRISM (i.e., PIM) value at the n^{th} point is $c_n = v_n u_n$.
- 3. At any other point, (λ, ϕ) , the correction to be applied to the PIM value is

$$c(\lambda, \phi) = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{N} w_n(\lambda, \phi) c_n}{\sum_{n=1}^{N} w_n(\lambda, \phi)}$$
(7)

where the $w_n(\lambda, \phi)$ are weight functions that depend on the distance measure $d_n(\lambda, \phi)$ between the point (λ, ϕ) and the n^{th} point (λ_n, ϕ_n) .

$$w_n(\lambda, \phi) = \frac{\prod_{k=1}^{N} d_k(\lambda, \phi)}{d_n(\lambda, \phi)} = \prod_{k \neq n}^{N} d_k(\lambda, \phi)$$
 (8)

In PRISM 1.5 we have used the following distance measure.

$$d_n(\lambda, \phi) = \frac{1}{2} \left[1 - \cos \gamma_n(\lambda, \phi) \right] \tag{9}$$

where $\gamma_n(\lambda, \phi)$ is the great circle distance between (λ, ϕ) and (λ_n, ϕ_n) :

$$\cos\gamma_n(\lambda,\phi) = \sin\lambda\sin\lambda_n + \cos\lambda\cos\lambda_n\cos(\phi - \phi_n) \tag{10}$$

As a practical matter, the actual weighting function used in PRISM is $w_n(\lambda, \varphi) = 1/d_n(\lambda, \varphi)$ unless $d_m(\lambda, \varphi) < \delta$ for some driver station m. In that case, $w_m = 1$ and $w_n = 0$ for $n \neq m$. In PRISM 1.5, δ is set to 10^{-6} .

This method ensures that PRISM will reproduce the input data. However, because the decorrelation length of the ionosphere is of the order of 1000 km or less, no interpolation scheme can hope to accurately reproduce ionospheric parameters where there is no data. Clearly, the denser the data net, the better the model will do. Unfortunately, at least initially, the data will be quite sparse. In order to ensure that sparse datasets do not produce unreasonable ionospheric specifications, PRISM 1.5 checks the spatial distribution of the data and inserts "phantom stations" with the corrections forced to zero. The procedure for placing phantom stations is as follows.

The low and midlatitude region is divided into 32 rectangular subregions with boundaries defined by the following parallels of latitude and meridians of longitude:

parallels of latitude: 60°S, 30°S, 0°, 30°N, and 60°N

meridians of longitude: 30°E, 75°E, 120°E, 165°E, 210°E, 255°E, 300°E, and 345°E

There is a phantom station located at the center of each rectangle. During the data ingestion process, PRISM keeps track of how many stations are located in each rectangular subregion, and how many have f_oF_2 data. As long as at least one station in a subregion reports a value for f_oF_2 , then the phantom station for that subregion is ignored. If, however, no station in the subregion reports a value for f_oF_2 , then the phantom station is assigned a value equal to the PIM value at that point. A similar procedure is followed for h_mF_2 , F_oE , and h_mE data. These phantom stations force the correction field to relax to values near zero in regions where there is no data.

4.4 Modifying the Low and Midlatitude Model Profiles

The interpolation method described above provides a global correction field that can be used to calculate the profile correction parameters at any location. In this section, we describe the

way in which the profiles are adjusted using the profile correction parameters. First the layer heights are adjusted, then the layer peak densities, and finally the topside correction is applied.

The layer height correction, using parameters 3 and 4 is a simple shifting of the profiles. If the F layer correction is $\Delta h_m F_2$, then the O⁺ profile is shifted so that

$$n_{O^+}^{new}(z) = n_{O^+}^{old}(z - \Delta h_m F_2) \tag{11}$$

A similar shift is applied to the molecular ion profiles, except that the altitude shift is $\Delta h_m E$.

Once the altitude corrections have been applied, parameters 1 and 2, the critical frequencies, will be used to scale the ion density profiles. For the F layer (O⁺), the unadjusted peak density is converted to a critical frequency. The correction to be applied (determined by the algorithm in section 4.3) is simply added to the unadjusted frequency. The corrected frequency is then converted back to a density. The ratio of the corrected density to the unadjusted density is used to scale the profile above the peak. Below the peak, an additive correction is applied. This additive correction smoothly vanishes as the altitude approaches $h_m E$. This ensures that F layer corrections do not impact the E layer. This additive correction is described in Appendix C. A similar scaling is applied to the molecular ions except that the additive correction is used above the peak and smoothly vanishes as the altitude approaches $h_m F_2$. This ensures that the E layer corrections do not impact the E layer.

Parameters 5 and 6 are used to correct the topside profile based on $n_{\rm e}$, $n_{\rm i}$, $T_{\rm e}$, and $T_{\rm i}$ measurements from SSIES on DMSP (nominally 840 km). Let $N_{\rm m}(z)$ be the model O⁺ profile (after $f_{\rm o}F_2$ and $h_{\rm m}F_2$ corrections have been applied). Further, let $z_p = h_m F_2$, and let $z_{top} =$ the altitude at which ΔN_{top} and ΔH_{top} were measured (usually the DMSP altitude). Let $N_{\rm c}(z)$ be the corrected profile based on ΔN_{top} and ΔH_{top} . $N_{\rm c}(z)$ must satisfy the following conditions:

$$N_c(z_{top}) = N_{top} \equiv N_m(z_{top}) + \Delta N_{top}$$
 (12)

and

$$\frac{1}{H_c(z_{top})} = -\left(\frac{1}{N_c} \frac{\partial N_c}{\partial z}\right)_{z=z_{top}} = \frac{1}{H_{top}} = \frac{1}{H_m(z_{top}) + \Delta H_{top}}$$
(13)

In PRISM the corrected profile is obtained from the model profile by scaling the altitude so that

$$N_c(z) = N_m(\zeta) \tag{14}$$

where

$$\zeta(z) = \begin{cases} z, & z \le z_p \\ z_p + \left[2 \frac{z_1 - z_p}{z_{lop} - z_p} - \frac{H_m(z_1)}{H_{lop}} \right] (z - z_p) + \left[\frac{H_m(z_1)}{H_{lop}} - \frac{z_1 - z_p}{z_{lop} - z_p} \right] \frac{(z - z_p)^2}{z_{lop} - z_p}, & z > z_p \end{cases}$$
(15)

$$N_m(z_1) = N_{top} \tag{16}$$

and

$$\frac{1}{H_m(z_1)} = -\left(\frac{1}{N_m} \frac{\partial N_m}{\partial z}\right)_{z=z_1} \tag{17}$$

Direct substitution of $z = z_{top}$ in Equation (15) verifies that $\zeta(z_{top}) = z_1$ so that Equation (12) is satisfied. That Equation (13) is satisfied may be seen from

$$\frac{1}{H_{c}(z_{top})} = -\left(\frac{1}{N_{c}}\frac{\partial N_{c}}{\partial z}\right)_{z_{top}}$$

$$= -\left(\frac{1}{N_{m}(\zeta)}\frac{\partial N_{m}}{\partial \zeta}\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial z}\right)_{z_{top}} = \frac{1}{H_{m}(z_{1})}\left\{2\frac{z_{1}-z_{p}}{z_{top}-z_{p}} - \frac{H_{m}(z_{1})}{H_{top}} + 2\left[\frac{H_{m}(z_{1})}{H_{top}} - \frac{z_{1}-z_{p}}{z_{top}-z_{p}}\right]\right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{H_{top}}$$
(18)

This form ensures that the correction and its first derivative vanish at the peak and that the O^+ concentration and its slope are as specified at z_{top} .

When there is no topside scale height data (as at low latitudes), PRISM sets H_{top} to the value

$$H_{top} = \frac{z_1 - z_p}{z_{top} - z_p} H_m \quad \text{(when } H_{top} \text{ is not determined from data)}$$
 (19)

so that the altitude scaling becomes linear

$$\zeta(z) = z_p + \frac{z_1 - z_p}{z_{top} - z_p} (z - z_p) \quad \text{(when } H_{top} \text{ is not determined from data)}$$
 (20)

An example of the midlatitude profile correction algorithm applied to a single profile is shown in Figure 3, for which we have used Incoherent Scatter Radar (ISR) data from Arecibo to simulate simultaneous digisonde and SSIES data. In this case, the data is from 1800 UT on 4 October 1989. In Figure 3a, the ISR data is compared with the climatology of PIM (i.e., unadjusted PRISM). A profile from the Ionospheric Conductivity and Electron Density (ICED) model [Tascione et al., 1988], which is currently operational at AFSFC is also shown. The actual $N_m F_2$ is a factor of two higher, and the actual $h_m F_2$ is about 40 km higher, than the climatological values. In Figure 3b, the PRISM profile has been adjusted only to match the actual $N_m F_2$. In Figure 3c, both $N_m F_2$ and $h_m F_2$ have been adjusted to match the actual data. Finally, in Figure 3d, both the peak and topside adjustments have been made. If we define an RMS density error as

RMS density error =
$$\sqrt{\frac{1}{13} \sum_{k=1}^{13} \left[\frac{N_{PRISM}(z_k) - N_{data}(z_k)}{N_{data}(z_k)} \right]^2}$$
(21)

then PRISM's RMS density error declines from 46% with no profile adjustment to 25% with an $N_m F_2$ adjustment only, to 18% with both $N_m F_2$ and $h_m F_2$ adjusted, and to 16% with both peak and topside adjustments.

Note that in operational use there are normally many data sites, and the topside and bottomside data are seldom colocated. Operationally, PRISM uses all available $h_m F_2$ and $h_m E$ data to establish global layer height correction fields, then it uses the available $N_m F_2$ and $N_m E$ data to calculate global profile scaling fields, and finally it uses the topside data to calculate global topside correction fields. These correction fields are then applied to each profile on the output grid as described above.

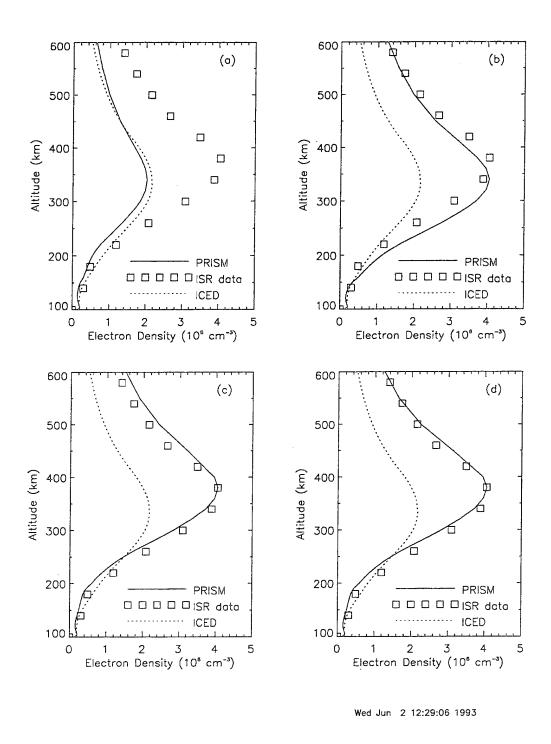


Figure 3. The PRISM profile adjustment procedure illustrated using Incoherent Scatter Radar (ISR) data from Arecibo. (a) No adjustment (i.e., PIM profile): The RMS density error is 46%. (b) $N_m F_2$ adjustment only: The RMS density error is 25%. (c) $N_m F_2$ and $h_m F_2$ adjustment: The RMS density error is 18%. (d) $N_m F_2$, $h_m F_2$, and topside adjustments: The RMS density error is 16%.

4.5 The High Latitude Adjustment Algorithm

Due to the complexity of the high latitude ionosphere, the real time adjustment algorithm differs appreciably from the low and midlatitude algorithm. Until SSUSI data becomes available, there will be insufficient data to adjust the parameterized USU model in the way that the parameterized low and midlatitude models can be adjusted. Even with SSUSI data, it is not clear that the midlatitude algorithm is appropriate for the high latitude regions.

In PRISM 1.2, the first step in the high latitude real time adjustment process is the establishment of boundary locations. Three boundaries are required: (1) the equatorward edge of the trough, (2) the equatorward edge of the auroral oval, and (3) the poleward edge of the auroral oval.

The equatorward edge of the trough is determined from SSIES drift meter data as the point where the measured ion drift speed departs from the corotation value. The trough boundary as a function of magnetic longitude is given by the formula

$$\theta_{t}(\varphi) = \theta_{0}(I_{t}) + a \exp \left[-\left(\frac{\varphi - b}{c}\right)^{p}\right]$$

where φ is the magnetic local time (MLT, hours), and I_t is a "trough index" correlated with K_p . $\theta_0(I_t)$ is the radius of the trough boundary at magnetic local midnight and is given by

$$\theta_0(I_t) = 24.4^\circ + 2.12^\circ I_t$$

The second term represents the dayside distortion of the boundary, which would otherwise be a circle centered on the magnetic pole. The parameter values are

$$a = -10.5^{\circ}$$

 $b = 11.5 \, hr$

c = 3.88 hr

p = 2.73

This model is an approximation to the convection boundaries shown in *Heppner and Maynard* [1987].

The trough index, I_i , is determined according to the following algorithm.

- 1. If there is no ion drift data, or if a boundary cannot be identified in the data, then $I_t = K_p$.
- 2. If a single boundary crossing is identified at colatitude θ_b and local time ϕ_b , then

$$\theta_0 = \theta_b - a \exp \left[-\left(\frac{\varphi_b - b}{c}\right)^2 \right]$$

and

$$I_t = \frac{\theta_0 - 24.4^\circ}{2.12^\circ}$$

3. If two or more crossings are identified, then the value of *I*, used is the average of the values determined for each crossing.

The boundaries of the auroral oval are determined from electron and ion precipitation data from the SSJ/4 instrument. Separate boundaries are determined for electron and ion precipitation. The algorithm for determining the electron and ion precipitation boundaries from the SSJ/4 data is described in Appendix D.

The next step in the high latitude adjustment process depends on the amount and kind of data available. The decision of how to proceed is made separately for the E layer (NO⁺ and O_2^+) and the F layer (O⁺). In each case, two choices are available:

F layer:

- 1. Perform a simple least squares adjustment of the USU O⁺ model.
- 2. Use a semi-empirical f_0F_2 model (FMODEL) to adjust the USU O⁺ profiles.

E layer:

- 1. Perform a simple least squares adjustment of the USU NO^+ and O_2^+ models.
- 2. Use a fast, first principles, E layer local chemistry model (HLE).

The decision matrix used in PRISM is shown in Table5.

Table 5. PRISM High Latitude Decision Matrix

Data Available?			Model Used by PRISM		
DISS	SSIES	SSJ/4	F layer	E layer	
Yes	Yes	Yes	FMODEL	HLE	
Yes	Yes	No	FMODEL	USU	
Yes	No	Yes	FMODEL	HLE	
Yes	No	No	USU	USU	
No	Yes	Yes	USU	USU	
No	Yes	No	USU	USU	
No	No	Yes	USU	USU	
No	No	No	USU	USU	

In experimenting with high latitude data, we found that extrapolating SSJ/4 data taken along the DMSP orbital track to points well away from the orbital track was very risky. We found no suitable model of the *instantaneous* auroral precipitation for this extrapolation. When SSUSI auroral image data becomes available, this limitation will be removed because much less extrapolation will be required. It should be possible to use HLE whenever timely SSUSI images are available.

FMODEL is a semi-empirical model of f_oF_2 based on a combination of theory and data. It is divided into three regions: the subauroral trough, the auroral oval, and the polar cap. The f_oF_2 determined by least squares adjustment of the model parameters is used to scale the USU O^+ profiles. No further adjustment of the profiles is performed.

The subauroral trough is divided into two local time regimes: evening (from 1200 to 0000 MLT) and morning (from 0000 to 1200 MLT). Each trough (morning and evening) has a depth

parameter that specifies the difference between the midlatitude value of f_oF_2 at the equatorward edge and the trough minimum. The local time variation of the trough depth is fixed (not part of the least squares adjustment process). If the width of the trough is less than 3° , the depth is reduced in proportion to the width so that when the width vanishes so does the depth. The thickness of the (equatorward) trough wall is always 60% of the total width of the trough. The poleward edge of the trough is the equatorward edge of the auroral F-layer, so the poleward "wall" is considered to be part of the auroral region.

At fixed magnetic local time, the auroral F layer f_0F_2 is simply a cubic polynomial in magnetic latitude:

$$f_o F_2(\lambda) = f_{max} + A(\lambda - \lambda_{max})^2 + B(\lambda - \lambda_{max})^3$$

where $f_{max} = f_o F_2(\lambda_{max})$ is an extremum, and A and B are chosen so that $f_o F_2$ is continuous across the boundaries with the trough and polar cap.

The background polar cap f_oF_2 is obtained from the URSI coefficients using an internally derived effective sunspot number, the value of which is determined as part of the least squares adjustment process based on ionosonde data. It should be noted that this part of the model describes only the background polar cap ionosphere, not "polar cap patches" or "polar cap arcs."

5. VALIDATION

Prior to delivery to the Air Force Space Forecast Center, and earlier version of PRISM (1.2) underwent an extensive validation using historical data approximating the kinds of data that will be available to PRISM in operational use. The results of this validation effort were reported in *Daniell et al.* [1994] and are not repeated here. Since PRISM 1.5 incorporates several substantial changes from PRISM 1.2, a new validation will be carried out in the future under a separate contract.

6. DISCUSSION

We have described the development of PRISM, a real time ionospheric specification model based on parameterized theoretical ionospheric models. Unlike previous specification models, PRISM is based on physical models rather than empirical models. PRISM consists of two parts: the parameterized physical models (PIM) and a real time update system that ingests both ground-based and space-based data and modifies PIM profiles accordingly. PRISM provides considerable improvement over simple climatology in the vicinity of the data sources and does no worse than climatology at locations remote from the data. With the advent of remote ionospheric sensing using UV airglow and auroral emissions measured from satellites and the proliferation of dual frequency GPS receivers providing line of sight TEC measurements, we expect this approach to provide improved ionospheric specifications in near real time for the AFSFC and its customers.

A number of compromises were required in the development of PIM and PRISM. First, of course, was the necessity of using parameterizations (in the form of diurnally reproducible runs) of the physical models, rather than the physical models themselves. Second, we had to use empirical models (e.g., MSIS-86) instead of physical models to provide the necessary inputs to the ionospheric models. Third, we had to use a tilted dipole representation of the earth's magnetic field instead of a more realistic model. This last compromise is mitigated somewhat by the use of Corrected Geomagnetic (CGM) coordinates in PIM and PRISM. While not fully self-consistent, this does allow a more realistic representation of geomagnetically controlled features such as the equatorial anomaly. We expect to remove the compromises as available computing power increases in the future.

The particular features described here apply to PRISM version 1.5 and PIM version 1.3. Significant enhancements to both PIM and PRISM are planned for the near future. H⁺ ion densities based on a parameterization of the plasmasphere model of *Bailey and Sellek* [1990] will be added so that PIM and PRISM can give electron density profiles up to the plasmapause. At the same time the coefficient files will be regenerated using a single global ionospheric model, eliminating the need to merge models across region boundaries. The parameterization process

will also be reexamined in order to produce a more accurate and more efficient analytic fit to the model runs. The resulting version of PRISM, while considerably enhanced, will be designed to fit into AFSFC's operational configuration with no changes to the existing software that interacts with PRISM 1.5.

Appendix A. Empirical Orthonormal Functions

This treatment of empirical orthogonal functions (EOF's) is based on the Appendix of Secan and Tascione [1984], which was based on Lorenz [1956], Kutzbach [1967], and Davis [1976]. See also Peixota and Oort [1991]. The reader is referred to these references for mathematical proofs of the assertions made below. In the following discussion, we use the notation given in Table 3 of the main text.

A database consists of altitude profiles at certain longitudes, certain latitudes, and certain Universal Times. (See Tables 1-4 of the main text.) Let S be the number of altitude profiles in a database, and let I be the number of points in each altitude profile. We would like to represent each altitude profile of the quantity Ψ (e.g., O^+ concentration) as an expansion in orthogonal functions, $g_m(z_i)$:

$$\Psi_s(z_i) = \sum_{m=1}^{M} \alpha_{sm} g_m(z_i) + r_s(z_i), \qquad s = 1...S, \ i = 1...I$$
 (A1)

where $r_s(z_i)$ is the residual, and the coefficients α_{sm} are calculated from

$$\alpha_{sm} = \sum_{i=1}^{I} \Psi_s(z_i) g_m(z_i)$$
 (A2)

In principle, any orthogonal set of functions may be used. However, the references cited above provide an algorithm for finding the set which minimizes the RMS error for a given number of terms, $M \le I$. We summarize the algorithm here.

First define the $I \times I$ covariance matrix C with elements

$$C_{ij} = \frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^{S} \Psi_s(z_i) \Psi_s(z_j), \qquad i, j = 1, 2, \dots I$$
 (A1)

Now consider the eigenvalue/eigenvector problem $\mathbb{C}\varphi = \varphi \mathbb{L}$ or

$$\sum_{j=1}^{I} C_{ij} \varphi_{jk} = \sum_{j=1}^{I} \varphi_{ij} \delta_{jk} \lambda_{k} = \varphi_{ik} \lambda_{k}$$
(A2)

where $\varphi = \{\varphi_{ij}\}$ is the matrix of eigenvectors of $\mathbb{C} = \{C_{ij}\}$, and $\mathbb{L} = \{\delta_{ij}\lambda_j\}$ is a diagonal matrix whose elements are the corresponding eigenvalues. (The k^{th} column of φ is the eigenvector

corresponding to the k^{th} eigenvalue, λ_k .) By convention, the eigenvectors and eigenvalues are ordered so that $\lambda_1 > \lambda_2 > ... > \lambda_I$. Because C is a real symmetric matrix, eigenvectors corresponding to unique eigenvalues are guaranteed to be orthogonal [See, e.g., *Hildebrand*, 1965]. Because of the origin of the matrix C, it is unlikely that any of its eigenvalues will be degenerate, so we may assume that φ is an orthogonal set. According to Secan and Tascione [1984] and references therein, the set of orthogonal functions that minimizes the RMS error for M terms is just the first M eigenvectors:

$$g_m(z_i) = \varphi_{im}, \qquad i = 1, 2, ... I; \ m = 1, 2, ... M$$
 (A3)

These are the Empirical Orthonormal Functions (EOFs).

As a practical matter, we have found that the number of EOFs needed to provide a reasonably good representation for all the profiles is about I/6, as illustrated in Table 4 in the main text. The only exception is the low and midlatitude E layer (NO⁺ and O₂⁺), probably because these databases covered both hemispheres simultaneously. We have also found that substantial improvement in representation does not occur until the number of EOF's is about I/2. Furthermore, the EOF's derived for one database were inadequate for any other database, and the EOF's simultaneously derived from several databases produce noticeably poorer representations than those derived for each database individually. Consequently, we have derived separate EOF sets for each database.

The first nine EOF's derived from the low latitude F region (O⁺) database for the US longitude sector, the December solstice, and moderate solar activity, are shown in Figure A1. The first EOF always has the least structure, and successive EOF's become progressively more structured. Although differing in detail, the EOF's for the other databases are qualitatively similar.

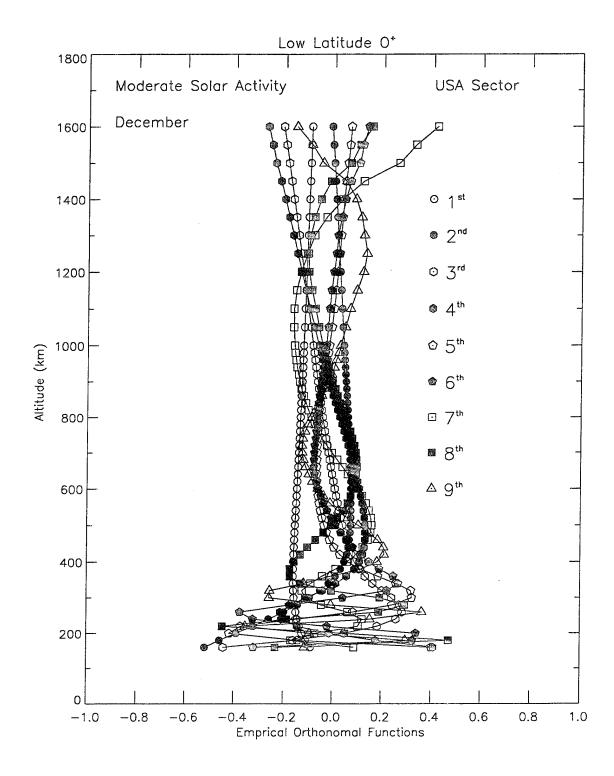


Figure A1. The Empirical Orthonormal Functions (EOF's) for low latitude O⁺ derived from the LOWLAT output databases for the USA longitude sector, December solstice, moderate magnetic activity, and moderate solar activity. Only the first nine EOF's are plotted because these are the ones used in PIM and PRISM.

Appendix B. Orthogonal Polynomials of Discrete Variables

Because the databases to which we desire analytic approximations have discrete latitude grids, we preferred to use polynomials whose orthogonality is defined in terms of that grid, rather than in terms of integrals over the interval. The algorithm for generating orthogonal polynomials on a specified grid is given by Beckmann [1973]. Let us denote the desired polynomials by $u_n(\lambda)$ and define $u_{-1}(\lambda) \equiv 0$ and $u_0(\lambda) \equiv 1$. Note that the polynomials are continuous functions of the continuous variable λ even though their orthogonality is defined in terms of the discrete grid $\{\lambda_j, j=1,2,...J\}$. The recursion relation for the polynomials is

$$u_{n+1}(\lambda) = (\lambda - B_n)u_n(\lambda) - \frac{h_n^2}{h_{n-1}^2}u_{n-1}(\lambda)$$
 (B1)

where the norms h_n are given by

$$h_n = \sum_{i=1}^J u_n^2 \left(\lambda_j \right) \tag{B2}$$

and the recursion constants B_n are given by

$$B_n = \frac{1}{h_n^2} \sum_{i=1}^{J} \lambda_i u_n(\lambda_i)$$
 (B3)

The polynomials generated by this algorithm may be used to represent the latitude variations of the Fourier coefficients a_{mp} and b_{mp} (see main text):

$$a_{mp}(\lambda_j, \tau_i) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \alpha_{mnp}(\tau_i) u_n(\lambda_j)$$
(B4)

$$b_{mp}(\lambda_j, \tau_l) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \beta_{mnp}(\tau_l) u_n(\lambda_j)$$
(B5)

where

$$\beta_{mnp}(\tau_l) = \frac{1}{h_n^2} \sum_{i=1}^{J} a_{mp} (\lambda_j, \tau_l) u_n(\lambda_j)$$
(B6)

$$\beta_{mnp}(\tau_l) = \frac{1}{h_n^2} \sum_{j=1}^J b_{mp}(\lambda_j, \tau_l) u_n(\lambda_j)$$
(B7)

Appendix C. F-layer Density Scaling Algorithm and TEC Adjustments

In order to be able to adjust E- and F-layer parameters separately, PRISM uses an altitude dependent scaling algorithm for each layer. Because the TEC adjustment process is dependent on the details of the F-layer adjustment process, they are described together.

For altitudes above $h_m F_2$ the adjustment is a simple multiplicative scaling:

$$n_{O^*}^{(new)}(z) = S_F n_{O^*}^{(old)}, \qquad z \ge h_m F_2$$
 (C1)

where

$$S_F = \frac{N_m F_2^{(new)}}{N_m F_2^{(old)}} \tag{C2}$$

When $N_m F_2^{(new)}$ is derived from DISS or other ionosonde data, it is simply

$$N_m F_2^{(new)} = 1.24 \times 10^4 (f_o F_2^{(DISS)})^2$$
 (C3)

where $f_o F_2^{({
m DISS})}$ is the measured value in MHz and $N_m F_2^{(new)}$ is incm⁻³.

For altitudes below $h_m F_2$, the adjustment is additive and vanishes gradually as z approaches $h_m E$.

$$n_{O^{+}}^{(\text{new})}(z) = n_{O^{+}}^{(\text{old})}(z) + \Delta n_{O^{+}}(z)$$
 (C4)

where

$$\Delta n_{O^{+}}(z) = \begin{cases} \left(N_{m}F_{2}^{(new)} - N_{m}F_{2}^{(old)}\right) \frac{\exp\left(\frac{z - h_{m}F_{2}}{W}\right) - \exp\left(\frac{h_{m}E - h_{m}F_{2}}{W}\right)}{1 - \exp\left(\frac{h_{m}E - h_{m}F_{2}}{W}\right)}, & h_{m}E < z < h_{m}F_{2} \\ 0, & z \le h_{m}E \end{cases}$$
(C5)

The value of the parameter W is determined by the shape of the bottomside O^+ density profile, and is usually of the order of 100 km.

In order to use TEC data, PRISM must convert the TEC measurement into an equivalent point measurement. TEC data is ingested as vertical equivalent TEC at the Ionospheric Intersection Point (IIP). If the IIP is farther than 1000 km from the nearest DISS site, then the TEC is converted into an equivalent $N_m F_2$. PRISM converts the observed vertical equivalent TEC (TEC_{obs}) into an F-layer correction factor that is applied in the same way as the correction factors derived from DISS (ionosonde) data. First, PRISM calculates a TEC correction as

$$\Delta TEC = TEC_{obs} - TEC_{PRISM}$$
 (C6)

The equivalent $N_m F_2$ correction is determined from

$$\Delta \text{TEC} = \int_0^\infty \left[n_{\text{O}^+}^{\text{(new)}}(z) - n_{\text{O}^+}^{\text{(old)}}(z) \right] dz \tag{C7}$$

or

$$\Delta \text{TEC} = W_b \Delta N_m F_2 + S_F \int_{h_m F_2}^{\infty} n_{\text{O}^+}^{\text{(old)}}(z) dz$$
 (C8)

where

$$W_{b} = W - \frac{(h_{m}F_{2} - h_{m}E)}{\exp(\frac{h_{m}F_{2} - h_{m}E}{W}) - 1}$$
(C9)

Therefore, the value of $N_m F_2^{(new)}$ corresponding to TEC_{obs} is

$$N_{m}F_{2}^{(new)} = \frac{\text{TEC}_{\text{obs}} - \text{TEC}_{\text{PRISM}} - W_{b}N_{m}F_{2}^{(old)}}{W_{b}N_{m}F_{2}^{(old)} + \int_{b}^{\infty} n_{O^{*}}^{(old)} dz} N_{m}F_{2}^{(old)}$$
(C10)

From this point, PRISM treats TEC data as if it were ionosonde data with $h_m F_2$ missing.

If the IIP is within 1000 km of a DISS site, then the TEC measurement is converted into an equivalent SSIES density measurement. First, the $\Delta f_o F_2$ and $\Delta h_m F_2$ corrections determined from the nearest DISS site is applied to the PIM profile at the IIP. Then the topside portion of the profile is corrected to force agreement with the TEC measurement:

$$n_{O_{+}}^{(new)}(z) = n_{O_{+}}^{(old)}(\zeta)$$
 (C11)

$$\zeta(z) = \begin{cases} z, & z \le h_m F_2 \\ h_m F_2 + a(z - h_m F_2), & z > h_m F_2 \end{cases}$$
 (C12)

where a is a scale factor to be determined from TEC.

The difference in TEC, as defined by Equation 6), is

$$\Delta \text{TEC} = \int_{h_{-}F_{2}}^{\infty} n_{O^{+}}^{(new)} dz - \int_{h_{-}F_{2}}^{\infty} n_{O^{+}}^{(old)} dz$$
 (C13)

or

$$\Delta \text{TEC} = \frac{1-a}{a} \int_{h_m F_2}^{\infty} n_{\text{O}^+}^{(old)} dz \tag{C14}$$

resulting in

$$a = \frac{\int_{h_{m}F_{2}}^{\infty} n_{O^{+}}^{(old)} dz}{\Delta \text{TEC} + \int_{h_{m}F_{2}}^{\infty} n_{O^{+}}^{(old)} dz}$$
(C15)

If we identify the scale factor a with the ratio $(z_1 - h_m F_2)/(z_d - h_m F_2)$, then

$$z_1 = h_m F_2 + (z_d - h_m F_2) a \tag{C16}$$

$$N_{top} = n_{O^+}^{(\text{old})}(z_1) \tag{C17}$$

and

$$H_{top} = aH_m \tag{C18}$$

If the IIP is within 1000 km of both a DISS station and a DMSP orbital track, the TEC measurement is ignored. In a future version of PRISM, in which the plasmasphere is included, TEC measurements in such situations will be used to constrain the H⁺ density.

Appendix D. Auroral boundary determination

There are four auroral precipitation boundaries in each hemisphere: The equatorward and poleward electron boundaries and the equatorward and poleward ion boundaries. Since there are always two DMSP satellites in orbit, there are potentially four crossings of each boundary. The specification of a given boundary depends on the number of crossings detected in the data. The boundary detection is performed as follows.

- 1. If SSJ/4 data are available, then divide each orbit's worth of data into four segments, each segment extending from the most equatorward point to the most poleward point.
- 2. Each segment is searched from equator toward the pole until the electron energy flux exceeds 0.25 erg cm⁻² s⁻¹ (for the equatorward electron boundary) and the ion energy flux exceeds 0.1 erg cm⁻² s⁻¹ (for the equatorward ion boundary).
- 3. Search each segment from pole toward the equator until the same thresholds are exceeded to establish the poleward boundaries.

The boundaries are always assumed to be circular. The specification of each boundary circle (in terms of its center and radius) depends on the number of crossings detected.

- If four crossings are found, there are four possible combinations of three points. Each of the four possible combinations defines a circle, which may be described by its center and radius.
 The center coordinates and radii of the four circles are averaged to determine the boundary used in PRISM.
- 5. If only three crossings are found, the boundary is uniquely defined by the circle passing through the three points.
- 6. If only two crossings are found, the boundary is taken to be the circle that passes through both points and has a radius equal to the mean of the colatitudes of the two points.

If only one crossing of a boundary is found, or if no crossings are found (or SSJ/4 data is missing), the boundaries are determined as follows. Equatorward boundaries are based on an

analytic representation of the Gussenhoven et al. [1983] boundary. The boundary itself is a circle whose center is displaced from the magnetic pole. The radius (in degrees) of the circle is

$$\theta_1(P_1) = 20.9^\circ + 1.7^\circ P_1$$

where P_1 is a "precipitation index". The center of the circle is located at

$$\lambda_{c1}(P_1) = 87.3^{\circ} - 0.267^{\circ} P_1$$

$$\varphi_{c1}(P_1) = 39.5^{\circ} - 1.25^{\circ} P_1 + 0.076^{\circ} P_1^2$$

where λ_{cl} is magnetic latitude and ϕ_{cl} is magnetic local time (in degrees).

Poleward boundaries have almost the same form, except that they are parameterized in terms of a separate "precipitation index" P_2 .

$$\theta_2(P_2) = 13.4^\circ + 1.7^\circ P_2$$

$$\lambda_{c2}(P_2) = \begin{cases} 89.2^{\circ} + 0.267^{\circ} P_2, & P_2 < 3\\ 90.8^{\circ} - 0.267^{\circ} P_2, & P_2 \ge 3 \end{cases}$$

$$\varphi_{c2}(P_2) = \begin{cases} \varphi_{c1} + 180^{\circ}, & P_2 < 3 \\ \varphi_{c1}, & P_2 \ge 3 \end{cases}$$

If there is no data, or if no boundaries are detected in the data, then $P_1 = P_2 = K_p$. However, if a single crossing is detected, then the precipitation index is chosen so that the above boundary matches the crossing.

Appendix E. PRISM Input/Output File Specifications

PRISM 1.4 External Input/Output File Specifications (i.e. files created by or under the control of the User)

CONTENTS

Input Files

2 pages 1 page Data Control Input File Specification (PATH_NAM.TXT) 3 pages 1 page 5 pages lonosonde (DISS) Input File Specification Output Station List Specification TEC (IMS) Input File Specification DMSP Input File Specification Input Stream Specification

Output Files

"Station" Output File Specification 5 pages Gridded Output File Specification 6 pages

PRISM 1.5 30 May 1995

Input Stream Specification for PRISM 1.5 30 May 1995

Element Name		ASCII Format	Units	Description	Repetition Rate	Notes
ට්	Character	"N"	N/A	"N" indicates this is a batch run (interactive runs are not supported in PRISM 1.5)	1 per file	
듸	teger	XXXX	years	4 digit year (e.g., 1989)	1 per file	
듸	Integer	XXX	days	day of year (1 Jan = 001, etc.)	1 per file	
In	teger	XXXX	hours and minutes	Universal Time of observation in HHMM format	1 per file	
III	Integer	×	N/A	Type of output for station sites: 0 = profile parameters (critical frequencies and layer heights) only 1 = electron density profiles only 2 = both profile parameters and electron density profiles 3 = no output at station sites	1 per file	
Int	Integer	×	N/A	Type of output for grid points: 0 = profile parameters only 1 = electron density profiles only 2 = both profile parameters and electron density profiles 3 = no gridded output	1 per file	
Int	Integer	×	N/A	Normalization for f_oF_2 : 0 = normalize to URSI-88 1 = no normalization	1 per file	

Notes	1	2	3	4,5	4	14	9	9
Repetition Rate	1 per file	1 per file	1 per file	t, I per file	T per file	I per file		1 per record
Description	Source indicator for SSN_{eff} : 0 = determine SSN_{eff} from DISS and IMS input, using input value as starting point 1 = use input value of SSN_{eff} (Record 26, SSNEFF)	"Y" if output stations are different than input stations.	name of file containing list of output stations.	output file name for gridded output.	"Y" indicates that a user specified grid will be used; "N" indicates that the default grid will be used	gridded output coordinate system: "G" = geographic (geocentric) "M" = corrected geomagnetic	latitude of southwest corner of user specified grid (positive north) longitude of southwest corner of user grid (positive east)	latitude of northeast corner of user specified grid (positive north) longitude of northeast corner of user grid (positive east)
Units	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	degrees	degrees
ASCII Format	X	N., 10X.,	see note 3	see note 5	"Y" or "N"	C orM	TXX.XX TXXXXXX	±XXX.XX
Data Type	Integer	Character	Character	Character	Character	Character	Real Real	Real Real
Element Name	SSNSRC	ST_DIF	ST_FIL	GR_FIL	USRGRD	G_OR_M	LATSW	LONNE
Record #	α	6	01	1	12	13	14	15

Record #	Element Name	Data Type	ASCII Format	Units .	Description	Repetition Rate Notes
16	SPACNG	Character	"N" ot "Q"	N/A	"N" indicates user will specify number of grid points; "G" indicates user will specify size of grid intervals	1 per file 6
17	NUMLAT	Integer	XXX	N/A	number of latitude points in user specified grid	1 per record 7
	NUMLON	Integer	XXX	Ψ/X	number of longitude points in user specified grid	1 per record
18	DLAT	Real	XXXXX	degrees	latitude spacing of user specified	I per record 8
45	DLON	Real	±XXX.XX	degrees	formitted spacing of user specified grid	l per record
61	USRALT	Character	γ., or "N"	N/A	indicates that user will specify	I per file 9
					output altitude grid; "N" indicates that default altitude grid will be used	
20	ALTFIL		see note 9	N/A	name of file containing user specified altitude orid	1 per file 10
21	RKP	Real	X.X	N/A	K_p value for UT of run	1 per file
22	BZ	Real	±XX.X	nT	z-component of Interplanetary Magnetic Field (IMF).	1 per record 11
	BY	Real	±XX.X	nT	y-component of IMF	1 per record
23	F10 <i>P7</i> A	Real	XXXX.X	solar flux units	90 day mean $F_{10.7}$ value (as used by MSIS model)	1 per file

ecord # Elemen	* Nome	Doe True	A CATT II		A		Account to the control of the contro
Name	Data 1ype		ASCII Format	Units	Description	Repetition Rate	Notes
F10SSN Integer	Integer		×	N/A	specifies relationship between F _{10.7}	1 per file	12
					and effective SSN:		
					$0 = SSN$ and $F_{10.7}$ are unrelated		ndaga girasi ka
					$1 = SSN$ is computed from $F_{10.7}$		
	 				$2 = F_{10.7}$ is computed from SSN		
F10P7 Real	Real		XXX.X	solar flux	the daily $F_{10.7}$ value (most recent	1 per file	
				units	measurement)		
ļ	Real		XXXX.	N/A	effective sunspot number		13
	N/A		N/A	N/A	3 blank lines	3 ner file	
CHANGE Character	Character		, N,	N/A	see note 14	per file	14
blank line N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	1 blank line	ner file	
				The second secon		T COT THE	

General Notes:

The Data Element Names do not necessarily correspond to the FORTRAN variable names in the source code. This is because the FORTRAN names are not always descriptive of the actual contents of the data element (for historical reasons).

Shaded records indicate that the record's presence is contingent on the contents of one or more preceding records.

suggested formats only. Plus (+) signs are always optional. The variables may be separated by (a) one or more spaces, (b) a comma (,), or (c) a Because PRISM uses FORTRAN list directed input for all numeric input, the numeric format is flexible. The formats indicated in the table are comma and one or more spaces.

Numbered Notes:

- . This record is present only if FNORM (record 7) is 0.
- This record is present only if ST_OUT (record 5) is 0, 1, or 2.
- This record is present only if ST_DIF (record 9) is "Y". It should contain a valid file name of or more than 32 characters, and the file must be located in the directory specified in record 3 of the file PATH_NAME.TXT. (SeeData Control Input Specification for PRISM.)
 - 4. This record is present only if GR_OUT (record 6) is 0, 1, or 2.

- If present, record 11 must contain a valid file name of no more than 32 characters. The file will be written to the default directory (the one containing PRISM.EXE).
 - This record is present only if USRGRD (record 12) is present and contains "Y"
- This record is present only if SPACNG (record 16) is present and contains "N".
- This record is present only if SPACNG (record 16) is present and contains "G".
- This record is present only if one or both of ST_OUT (record 5) or GR_OUT (record 6) has the value 1 or 2. ∞ . 0
- This record is present only if USRALT (record 19) contains "Y". If present, it must contain a valid file name of no more than 32 characters, and the file must be located in the default directory.
- nT = nanoTesla. PRISM uses only the sign of B_z and B_y to select coefficients corresponding to Heppner-Maynard convection patterns, so the units are not crucial, and even a crude estimate is useful.
- F10SSN = 0 is strongly recommended.
- This record is present only if F10SSN (record 24) contains 0 or 2. 12. 13.
- CHANGE (record 28) should always contain "N"

	(record 19 and note 9)	(record 15)	(records 1,27-29) Version 1.5
2 September 1994	16 September 1994	3 November 1994	30 May 1995
Original document:	correction 1:	correction 2:	correction 3:

Data Control Input File Specification for PRISM 1.5 30 May 1995

File Name: PATH NAM.TXT

Record #	Element Name	Data Type	ASCII Format	Units	Description	Repetition Rate	Notes
—	DACCES	Integer	×	N/A	indicates how direct access files are opened. Should always be 2 for VAX VMS systems. See note 1	1 per file	-
2	CGPATH	Character	see note 2	N/A	specifies the directory that contains the file that contains for converting from geocentric to corrected geomagnetic coordinates	1 per file	2,3
က	RTPATH	Character Character	see note 2	N/A	specifies the directory containing the real time data (DISS, TISS, SSIES, SSJ/4, etc.)	1 per file	
4	USUPATH	Character	see note 2	N/A	specifies the directory containing the USU model coefficient databases.	1 per file	
S	MFPATH	Character	see note 2	N/A	specifies the directory containing the midlatitude F layer coefficient databases	1 per file	
9	LFPATH	Character	see note 2	N/A	specifies the directory containing the low latitude F layer coefficient databases	1 per file	
7	LMEPATH	Character	see note 2	N/A	specifies the directory containing the low and midlatitude E layer coefficient databases	1 per file	
œ	HLEPATH	Character	see note 2	N/A	specifies directory containing files needed by HLE (High Latitude Elayer model).	1 per file	
0	URSIPATH	Character	see note 2	N/A	specifies directory containing the URSI-88 coefficients	1 per file	

Record #	Element Name Data Type ASCII Format	Data Type	ASCII Format	Units	Description	Repetition Rate Notes	Notes
10	DISS	Character	see note 4	N/A	identifies file(s) containing DISS 5 per record data.	5 per record	4
11	DMSP	Character	see note 4	N/A	identifies file(s) containing DMSP 8 per record (SSIES & SSJ/4) data.	8 per record	4
12	TISS	Character	see note 4	N/A	identifies file(s) containing TISS 5 per record data.	5 per record	4

General Notes:

The Data Element Names do not necessarily correspond to the FORTRAN variable names in the source code. This is because he FORTRAN names are not always descriptive of the actual contents of the data element (for historical reasons),

Numbered Notes:

- VAX VMS FORTRAN opens direct access files with record lengths specified in longwords (4 byte words). DOS and UNIX FORTRAN usually open direct access files with record lengths specified in bytes. For the latter case, the value should be specified as 1.
 - Directory (or path) names must be valid directory names of no more than 80 characters in length.
- 3. The coefficient file is named CGLALO.DAT.
- prefixes to the full file names of the form "xxxxxxxxxx.DAT". The user is free to choose any unique character string (of 10 characters or less) This record may contain up to five fields. Each field is exactly 11 characters in length. Each field may contain one file name, left justified, of but blank fields are ignored. (That is, PRISM does not attempt to open files named ".DAT".) If there is no data of this type, the record should no more than 10 characters. The 11th character is used for improved readability and is ignored by PRISM. The file names actually represent be empty or blank,

	(Note 4 clarified, Note 5 eliminated)	(No changes except version number)
2 September 1994	9 January 1995	30 May 1995
Original Document	Revisions	Version 1.5

Ionosonde (DISS) Input Files for PRISM 1.5 30 May 1995

Record #	Element Name	Data Type	ASCII Format	Units	Description	Repetition Rate	Notes
1::Z	YEAR	Integer	XXXX	years	4 digit year of observation	1 per record	
	DAY	Integer	XXX	days	day of year of observation	1 per record	l
	L	Integer	XXXX	hours and	Universal Time of observation in	1 per record	
288.4				minutes	HHMM format	ť	
	GLAT	Real	±XX.XX	degrees	geographic latitude of ionosonde	1 per record	
	CLON	Real	±XXX.XX	degrees	geographic longitude of ionosonde	1 per record	
3000	FOF2	Real	XX.XX	MHz	observed critical frequency of the	1 per record	
					F, layer	4	
	HMF2	Real	XXX.X	km	observed height of the F, layer	1 per record	
	FOF1	Real	XX.XX	MHz	observed critical frequency of the	1 per record	7
					F layer	4	
	HMF1	Real	XXX.X	km	observed height of the F ₁ layer	1 per record	7
	FOE	Real	XX.XX	MHz	observed critical frequency of the E		
					layer		
	HME	Real	XXX.X	km	observed height of the E layer	1 per record	
	OPTIONAL	Character	N/A	N/A	Optional information (e.g., WMO	1 per record	
					number): ignored by PRISM, may		
					be left blank		

General Notes:

The Data Element Names do not necessarily correspond to the FORTRAN variable names in the source code. This is because the FORTRAN names are not always descriptive of the actual contents of the data element (for historical reasons).

suggested formats only. Plus (+) signs are always optional. The variables may be separated by (1) one or more spaces, (2) a comma (,), or (3) a Because PRISM uses FORTRAN list directed input for all numeric input, the numeric format is flexible. The formats indicated in the table are comma and one or more spaces.

Numbered Notes:

- All records have the same format. PRISM recognizes the end-of-file (eof) mark as an "end-of-data" indicator. Thus the number of records, N,
 - does not have to be specified. PRISM versions through 1.4 ignore F_1 layer parameters. However, future versions may make use of these parameters so space is reserved in the input file for them. 7

	(No changes except version number)
(Version 1.4)	(Version 1.5)
2 September 1994	30 May 1995
Original Document:	Revision 1

TEC (IMS) Input Files for PRISM 1.5 30 May 1995

Kecord #	Element Name Data Type	Data Type	ASCII Format	Units	Description	Repetition Rate	Notes
Z::I	YEAR	Integer	XXXX	years	4 digit year of observation	I ner record	1
	DAY	Integer	XXX	7	don of the second of the secon		4
		TO SOL	W. W	uays	uay of year of observation	I per record	16 m 161
	L	Integer	XXXX	hours and	Universal Time of observation in	1 per record	
				minutes	HHMM format	•	
	GLAT	Real	±XX.XX	degrees	geographic latitude of ionospheric	1 per record	
	,				penetration point (IPP)	1	
	CLON	Real	±XXX.XX	degrees	geographic longitude of ionospheric 1 per record	1 per record	
	i				penetration point (IPP)	•	
***************************************	TEC	Real	XXX.X	TEC units	vertical equivalent TEC obtained	1 per record	7
en e					from slant TEC and assigned to IIP	i	
Arrow Strate &	OPTIONAL	Character	N/A	N/A	Option descriptive information	1 per record	
					(e.g., TISS site ID). Ignored by	ı	
					PRISM, may be left blank		5 (2.000)

General Notes:

The Data Element Names do not necessarily correspond to the FORTRAN variable names in the source code. This is because the FORTRAN names are not always descriptive of the actual contents of the data element (for historical reasons).

suggested formats only. Plus (+) signs are always optional. The variables may be separated by (1) one or more spaces, (2) a comma (,), or (3) a Because PRISM uses FORTRAN list directed input for all numeric input, the numeric format is flexible. The formats indicated in the table are comma and one or more spaces.

Numbered Notes:

All records have the same format. PRISM recognizes the end-of-file (eof) mark as an "end-of-data" indicator. 7: -

The precise definition of the IIP used to calculate the vertical equivalent TEC is not critical as long as it is used consistently.

(No changes other than version number) (Version 1.4) (Version 1.5) 2 September 1994 30 May 1995 Original Document Revision 1

DMSP Input Files for PRISM 1.5 30 May 1995

File Name: as specified in the Data Control Input File ("PATH_NAM.TXT")

HEADER						
	Character	50 character string	N/A	data identification header: one of	1 per data type	1
				1. "SSIES ION DRIFT"	per satellite	
				2. "SSIES IN STIU PLASMA" 3. "SSI/4 DATA"		
YEAR	Integer	XXXX	years	4 digit year of observation	1 per record	2.3
DAY	Integer	XXX	days	day of year of observation	1 per record)
L	Integer	XXXXX	seconds	Universal Time of observation	1 per record	
GLAT	Real	±XX.XX	degrees	geographic latitude of observation	1 per record	
CLON	Real	±XXX.XX	degrees	geographic longitude of observation	1 per record	
^^	Real	±X.XXE±XX	m s-1	vertical ion drift velocity in	1 per record	
!!				instrument coordinates	·	
ΛH	Real	±X.XXE±XX	m s ⁻¹	horizontal ion drift velocity in	1 per record	
;				instrument coordinates		
	Real	±X.XXE±XX	cm-3	in situ electron density	1 per record	
	Integer	XXXX	years	4 digit year of observation	1 per record	2.3
IN SITU DAY	Integer	XXX	days	day of year of observation	1 per record	ì
	Integer	XXXXX	seconds	Universal Time of observation	1 per record	
	Real	±XX.XX	degrees	geographic latitude of observation	1 per record	
GLON	Real	±XXX.XX	degrees	geographic longitude of observation	1 per record	
ALTN	Real	XXXXX.X	km	altitude of spacecraft	1 per record	
NE	Real	±X.XXE±XX	cm-3	in situ electron density	1 per record	
Ħ	Real	±X.XXE±XX	M	in situ electron temperature	1 per record	
FOP	Real	±X.XXE±XX	N/A	fraction of ions that are O^*	1 per record	
FHEP	Real	±X.XXE±XX	N/A	fraction of ions that are He	1 per record	
FHP	Real	±X.XXE±XX	N/A	fraction of ions that are H ⁺	1 per record	
	Real	±X.XXE±XX	X	in situ ion density	1 per record	

Record #	Element Name Data Type	Data Type	ASCII Format	Units	Description	Repetition Rate Notes	Notes
2 ("SSJ/4	YEAR	Integer	XXXX	years	4 digit year of observation	1 per record	2,3
DATA")	DAY	Integer	XXX	days	day of year of observation	1 per record	
	UT	Integer	XXXXX	seconds	Universal Time of observation	1 per record	
	GLAT	Real	±XX.XX	degrees	geographic latitude of spacecraft	1 per record	4
					field line at 110 km		
2000	CLON	Real	±XXX.XX	degrees	geographic longitude of spacecraft	1 per record	4
- 0					filed line at 110 km		
	EBARE	Real	XXXX.XXX	keV	mean electron energy	1 per record	
	EFLUXE	Real	XXXX.XXX	erg cm ⁻² s ⁻¹	energy flux of electrons	1 per record	
	EBARI	Real	XXXX.XXX	keV	mean ion energy	1 per record	
	EFLUXI	Real	XXXX.XXX	erg cm ⁻² s ⁻¹	energy flux of protons	1 per record	
	SIGE	Real	XXXX.XXX	erg cm ⁻² s ⁻¹	1 sigma uncertainty in EFLUXE	1 per record	
10 day 10 da	SIGI	Real	XXXX.XXX	erg cm ⁻² s ⁻¹	1 sigma uncertainty in EFLUXI	1 per record	

General Notes:

The Data Element Names do not necessarily correspond to the FORTRAN variable names in the source code. This is because the FORTRAN names are not always descriptive of the actual contents of the data element (for historical reasons).

suggested formats only. Plus (+) signs are always optional. The variables may be separated by (1) one or more spaces, (2) a comma (,), or (3) a Because PRISM uses FORTRAN list directed input for all numeric input, the numeric format is flexible. The formats indicated in the table are comma and one or more spaces.

Numbered Notes:

A DMSP input file for PRISM 1.4 may contain three kinds of data, each idenfified by a unique header string: "SSIES ION DRIFT" identifies Drift Meter (DM) data

"SSIES IN SITU PLASMA" identifies data from the Scintillation Meter (SM), Langmuir Probe (EP), and Retarding Potential Analyzer

"SSJ/4 DATA" identifies electron and ion precipitation data

contain data from only one satellite. For example, for a single satellite, there may be at most three sections, one for each kind of data. For two A DMSP input file may contain data from any number of satellites. However each section, identified by one of the above header strings, may satellites, there may be as many as six sections.

2. The contents of Record 2 depend on the contents of Record 1.

3. This record is repeated until the data of this kind is exhausted.

This record is repeated until the data of this kind is exhausted. PRISM detects the end of the data by recognizing (1) the EOF mark, or (2) encountering a new header string.

effects in the auroral E-layer near 110 km altitude, the desired coordinates are the geographic location of the geomagnetic field line that passes Because precipitating electrons and ions are constrained to move along magnetic field lines, and because PRISM is trying to determine the through the spacecraft at 110 km instead of the actual location of the spacecraft.

Original document: 27 September 1994 (r. Sevision 1: 5 October 1994 (r.

Revision 2:

5 October 1994 (record 1; record 2, "SSJ/4 DATA"; and note 4)

30 May 1995 (Version 1.5) (no changes except version number)

Output Station List Input File for PRISM 1.5 30 May 1995

		The state of the s		Annual Section Section 1999			
Record #	Element Name	Data Type	ASCII Format	Units	Description	Repetition Rate	Notes
	GLAT	Real	±XX.XX	degrees	geographic latitude of ionosonde	1 per record	-
	GLON	Real	±XXX.XX	degrees	geographic longitude of ionosonde	1 per record	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	OPTIONAL	Character	N/A	N/A	Optional information (e.g., WMO	1 per record	
					number): ignored by PRISM, may	ı	
					be left blank		

General Notes:

The Data Element Names do not necessarily correspond to the FORTRAN variable names in the source code. This is because the FORTRAN names are not always descriptive of the actual contents of the data element (for historical reasons).

suggested formats only. Plus (+) signs are always optional. The variables may be separated by (1) one or more spaces, (2) a comma (,), or (3) a Because PRISM uses FORTRAN list directed input for all numeric input, the numeric format is flexible. The formats indicated in the table are comma and one or more spaces.

Numbered Notes:

All records have the same format. PRISM recognizes the end-of-file (eof) mark as an "end-of-data" indicator. Thus the number of records, N, does not have to be specified.

	(No changes other than version number)
94	(Version 1.5)
2 September 1994	30 May 1995 (V
Original Document	Revision 1:

Gridded Output Specification for PRISM 1.5 30 May 1995

File Name: as specified in PRISM Input Stream

Record #	Element Name Data Type	Data Type	ASCII Format	Units	Description	Repetition Rate	Notes
	Header	Character	"YEAR DAY"	N/A	column labels for numeric data in	1 per file	COLOR
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		. !!			record 2	•	
2	Separator	Character	66 99	N/A	separator (row of hyphens)	1 per file]
3	YEAR	Integer	XXXX	N/A	4 digit year (e.g., 1989)	1 per file	1
	DAY	Integer	XXX	N/A	day of year (1 Jan = 001 , etc.)	1 per file	
	LJ	Real	XXXXX.X	seconds	Universal Time	1 per file	M. Suprimore con
	F10P7	Real	XXXX.X	solar flux	Solar radio flux at 10.7 cm (2800	1 per file	
				units	Mhz) (daily value)	4	
	RKP	Real	XX.X	N/A	Kp geomagnetic activity index	1 per file	
 	SSN	Real	XXXXX.X	N/A	Solar Sunspot Number	1 per file	
4	blank line	N/A	N/A	N/A	blank line	1 per file	
5	blank line	N/A	N/A	N/A	blank line	1 per file	[
9	IGM	Integer	X	N/A	flag indicating coordinate system:	1 per file	
					0 = geomagnetic, 1 = geographic		eri Viterani ann
_	Header	Character	" Latitude I ongitude "	N/A	header for grid information	1 per file	
			Break				- Vac
×	Header	Character	". Starting Ending"	" N/A	subheader for grid information	1 per file	

Record #		nent Name	Element Name Data Type	ASCII Format	Units	Description	Repetition Rate	Notes
6	LAT0	ro	Real	XXXXXX	degrees	starting latitude of grid (southwest	1 per file	
	LATF	ΓF	Real	XXXXXXX	degrees	corner) ending latitude of grid (northeast	1 per file	
	TON0	0 <u>N</u>	Real	XXXXXXX	degrees	corner) starting longitude of grid	i per file	
ar says said in the says	ΓΟΊ	LONF	Real	XXXX.XX	degrees	(southwest corner) ending longitude of grid (northeast	1 per file	
a de la constanta de la consta	N	MLAT	Integer	XXXXXX	N/A	corner) number of latitude points in grid	1 per file	diam's min
- 40 A T T T T	NON	NUMLON	Integer	XXXXXX	N/A	number of longitude points in grid	1 per file	e de de
	DF,	AT	Real	XXXXXX	degrees	latitude spacing	1 per file	
	DF	NO	Real	XXXXXXX	degrees	longitude spacing	1 per file	
10	TUOI	JT	Integer	XX	N/A	indicator for type of output at each 1 per file	1 per file	1
<u>***</u> -2-						grid point:		
59						0 = profile parameters (critical		
Apr. 4-7						frequencies and heights) only		Paragamyd Sauce (199
Start Ac						1 = electron density profiles only		o (Chroniu
						2 = both electron density profiles		1 22-11
						and profile parameters		

Record #	Element Name Data Type	e Data Type	ASCII Format	Units	Description	Repetition Rate	Notes
11 (IOUT=0)	blank line	N/A	N/A	N/A	blank line	1 per record	2
12 (IOUT=0)	GGLAT	Real	XXXX.XX	degrees	geographic latitude of grid point	1 per record	2
	CCLON	Real	XXXX.XX	degrees	geographic longitude of grid point	1 per record	
1000-1100 N	MLAT	Real	XXXXX.XX	degrees	geomagnetic latitude of grid point	1 per record	
	MLON	Real	XXXXXXX	degrees	geomagnetic longitude of grid point	_	-0
 	MLT	Real	XX.XX	hours	geomagnetic local time		
13 (IOUT=0)	FOF2	Real	XXXX.XX	MHz	critical frequency of F2 layer	1 per record	2
	HMF2	Real	XXXXXXX	km	height of F2 layer	1 per record	
	FOF1	Real	XXXXXXX	MHz	critical frequency of F1 layer	1 per record	œ
-	HMF1	Real	XXXXXXX	km	height of F1 laver	1 per record	000
	FOE	Real	XXXXXXX	Mhz	critical frequency of E layer	1 per record)
	HME	Real	XXXXXXX	km	height of E layer	1 per record	
	TEC	Real	XXXX.X	TEC units	Total Electron Content	1 per record	

	Record #	Element Name Data Type	Data Type	ASCII Format	Units	Description	Repetition Rate	Notes
	11 (IOUT=1) label	label	Character	"Number of altitude N/A	N/A	label for numeric element NALT	1 per file	3
				points = '				
			Integer	XXXXXX	N/A	number of altitudes on grid	1 per file	
	12 (IOUT=1)		Character	"Altitudes"	N/A	header for list of altitude grid	1 per file	3
	13 (IOUT=1) ALT		Real	XXXXX.XX	km	altitude of a point on the altitude	5 per record	4
						grid		
	14 (IOUT=1) blank line	blank line	N/A	N/A	N/A	blank line	1 per record	5
	15 (IOUT=1)	GGLAT	Real	XXXXX.XX	degrees	geographic latitude of grid point	1 per record	5
		CCTON	Real	XXXXXXX	degrees	geographic longitude of grid point	1 per record	
		MLAT	Real	XXXXXXX	degrees	geomagnetic latitude of grid point	1 per record	
		MLON	Real	XXXXXXX	degrees	geomagnetic longitude of grid point	1 per record	
		MLT	Real	XX.XX	hours	geomagnetic local time	1 per record	
	16 (IOUT=1)	Header	Character	"Densities"	N/A	header for electron densities	1 per record	5
61	17 (IOUT=1)	EDEN	Real	±X.XXE±XX	cm ⁻³	electron density corresponding to	5 per record	4,5
						aintude in record 11		navene agger i t

Record #	Element Name Data Type	Data Type	ASCII Format	Units	Description	Penetition Date	Notos
11 (IOUT=2)	Label	Character	"Number of altitude	N/A	label for numeric element NALT	1 ner file	3
			points = ')
 	NALT	Integer	XXXXXX	N/A	number of altitudes on grid	1 ner file	64
12 (IOUT=2)_	Header	Character	"Altitudes"	N/A	header for list of altitude grid	1 per file	3
13 (IOUT=2)	ALT	Real	XXXXXX	km	altitude of a point on the altitude	5 per record	4
	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1				grid	•	
14 (IOUT=2)	blank line	N/A	N/A	N/A	blank line	1 ner record	
15 (IOUT=2)	GGLAT	Real	XXXX.XX	degrees	geographic latitude of orid point	1 ner record	
	CCTON	Real	XXXX.XX	degrees	geographic longitude of grid noint	1 per record)
	MLAT	Real	XXXXX.XX	degrees	geomagnetic latitude of prid noint	1 per record	
	MLON	Real	XXXXXXX	degrees	geomagnetic longitude of grid noint	f per record	
	MLT	Real	XX.XX	hours	geomagnetic local time	1 per record	
16(100T=2)	Header	Character	"Densities"	N/A	header for electron densities	1 per record	
17 (IOUT=2)	EDEN	Real	+X.XXF+XX	cm ⁻³	electron density comesnonding to	A POLITOCOLO	
•					ciccuon actionty corresponding to	o per record	4,0
18 (IOI IT-2)	Usedan				allitude in record 11	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
10 (1001=2)	reader	Character		N/A	header for profile parameters	1 per record	9
(19 (100 I = 2)	FOF2	Keal	XXXXXXX	MHz	critical frequency of F2 layer	1 per record	9
	HMF2	Real	XXXXXXX	km	height of F2 layer	1 per record	
	FOF1	Real	XXXXXX	MHz	critical frequency of F1 layer	1 per record	¢.
	HMF1	Real	XXXXX.XX	km	height of F1 laver	1 per record) o
	FOE	Real	XXXXX.XX	Mhz	critical frequency of F layer	1 per record)
	HME	Real	XXXXXXX	km	height of E layer	1 per record	
	TEC	Real	XXX.X	TEC units	Total Electron Content	1 per record	7

Notes:

- The structure of the PRISM gridded output file after Record 10 depends on the content of Record 10.
 - For IOUT=0, Records 11-13 are repeated until the data for every grid point has been written.
 - . For IOUT=1 or 2, Records 11 and 12 are written only once.
- For IOUT=1, Records 14-17 are repeated until the data for every grid point has been written. This Record is repeated until the contents of the Data Element have been exhausted.
- For IOUT=2, Records 14-19 are repeated unit the data for every grid point has been written. 6.
 - 1 TEC unit = 10^{12} cm⁻² = 10^{16} m⁻²
- PRISM 1.4 does not currently calculate F_1 layer parameters, but future versions may do so.

2 September 1994	6 September 1994 (record 13, IOUT=0; record 19, IOUT=2)	26 September 1994 (record 13, IOUT=0; record 13, IOUT=1 & 2; record 19, IOUT=2; Notes 6 & 8)
Original document:	revision 1:	revision 2:

(No changes other than version number)

10 November 1994 (record 12, IOUT=0, record 15, IOUT=1 & 2)

30 May 1995 (Version 1.5)

revision 3: revision 4:

"Station" Output Specification for PRISM 1.5 30 May 1995

File Name: TMPA.DAT

	Notes		diamenta bibliologi			1	
	Repetition Rate	1 per record	1 per record	1 per record	1 per record	1 per file	
	Description	identifies data type	1	number of output station sites		indicator for type of output at each station: 0 = profile parameters only 1 = electron density profiles only 2 = both profile parameters and electron density profiles 3 = no output at station sites	
	Units	" N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	ASCII Format	"IONOSONDE	" data "	XXX	"records"	×	
	ne Data Type	Character	Character	Integer	Character	Integer	
A LVAR I N.L.A N.	Element Name	DTYPE	text	NRECL	text	IOUTS	
	Record #				 	7	

Record #	Element Name	Data Type	ASCII Format	Units	Description	Repetition Rate	Notes
3 (IOUTS=0)	Header	Character	"" MUM "	N/A	column labels	1 per file	
4 (IOUTS=0)	NUM	Integer	XXX	N/A	site number	1 per record	2
	UT	Real	XX.XX	hours	UT (decimal hours)	1 per record	
	LAT	Real	±XX.XX	degrees	geographic latitude	1 per record	
on a standard of the standard	LON	Real	±XXX.XX	degrees	geographic longitude	1 per record	The second second
	MLAT	Real	±XX.XX	degrees	geomagnetic latitude	1 per record	
	MLON	Real	±XXX.X	degrees	geomagnetic longitude	1 per record	
**************************************	MLT	Real	XX.XX	hours	geomagnetic local time	1 per record	
	FOF2	Real	XX.XX	MHz	critical frequency of F2 layer	1 per record	
	HMF2	Real	XXX.XX	km	height of F2 layer	1 per record	
	FOF1	Real	XX.XX	MHz	critical frequency of F1 layer	1 per record	n
	HMF1	Real	XXX.XX	km	height of F1 layer	1 per record	ω
V.	FOE	Real	XX.XX	MHz	critical frequency of E layer	1 per record	
	HME	Real	XXX.XX	km	height of E laver	1 per record	
65	TEC	Real	XXXX.X	TEC units		1 per record	_
	 - -			1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1		
••••							
- f- v							
-							
							o in it made
							twint e. F.
							1,300°00°

-		AND REPARTMENT OF THE PROPERTY		a mela ke 1911 je 1900 od objekt nasovaćeniom kada je se je poseb kada ke njemenjem je poma nasovaje				
~	Record #	Element Name Data Type	Data Type	ASCII Format	Units	Description	Repetition Rate	Notes
3	3 (IOUTS=1) label	label	Character	"Number of altitude N/A	N/A	label for numberic element NALT	1 per file	
ssa inninaerak				points = "			4	
		i ! !	Integer	XXXXXX	N/A	number of altitudes on altitude grid 1 per file	1 per file	
4	4 (IOUTS=1) Header		Character	"Altitudes"	N/A	header for list of altitude grid	1 per file	
2	5 (IOUTS=1) ALT		Real	XXXXXX	km	altitude of a point on the altitude	5 per record	4
	 					grid	1	
မ	6 (IOUTS=1)	blank line	N/A	N/A	N/A	blank line	1 per record	5
7	7 (IOUTS=1)	NUM	Real	XXX	N/A	site number		1
^- <u>3.11</u>		UT	Real	XX.XX	hours	Universal Time (decimal hours)		
		LAT	Real	±XXX.XX	degrees	geographic latitude		
<u> </u>		LON	Real	±XXX.XX	degrees	geographic longitude		
		MLAT	Real	±XXX.XX	degrees	geomagnetic latitude		
		MLON	Real	±XXX.XX	degrees	geomagnetic longitude		
-		MLT	Real	XXXXX.XX	decimal	geomagnetic local time		
<u> </u>	 	 			hours			
∞¦	8 (IOUTS=1)_	Header	Character	"Densities"	N/A	header for electron densities	1 per record	5
6	9 (IOUTS=1)	EDEN	Real	±X.XXE±XX	cm ⁻³	electron density corresponding to	5 per record	4,5
						altitude grid in record 4		
								71111

Record #	Element Name Data Type	Data Type	ASCII Format	Units	Description	Repetition Rate	Notes
3 (IOUTS=2)	Label	Character	"Number of altitude	N/A	label for numeric element NALT	1 per file	
eks we 45.17 de			points =				
	NALT	Integer	XXXXXX	N/A	number of altitudes on grid	1 per file	
4 (IOUTS=2)	Header	Character	"Altitudes"	N/A	header for list of altitude grid	1 per file	
5 (IOUTS=2)	ALT	Real	XXXXXXX	km	altitude of a point on the altitude	5 per record	4
			.		grid		
6 (IOUTS=2)	blank line	N/A	N/A	N/A	blank line	1 per record	9
7 (IOUTS=2)	NUM	Integer	XXX	N/A	site number	1 per record	9
	UT	Real	XX.XX	hours	UT (decimal hours)	1 per record	
	LAT	Real	±XX.XX	degrees	geographic latitude	1 per record	
	LON	Real	±XX.XX	degrees	geographic longitude	1 per record	
 	MLAT	Real	±XX.XX	degrees	geomagnetic latitude	1 per record	! !
	MLON	Real	±XXXX.X	degrees	geomagnetic longitude	1 per record	
	MLT	Real	XX.XX	hours	geomagnetic local time	1 per record	
57	FOF2	Real	XX.XX	MHz	critical frequency of F2 layer	1 per record	
	HMF2	Real	XXX.XX	km	height of F2 layer	1 per record	
	FOF1	Real	XX.XX	MHz	critical frequency of F1 layer	1 per record	3
	HMF1	Real	XXXXX	km	height of F1 layer	1 per record	3
	FOE	Real	XX.XX	MHz	critical frequency of E layer	1 per record	
	HME	Real	XX.XXX	km	height of E layer	1 per record	
	TEC	Real	XXXX.X	TEC units	vertical TEC	1 per record	7
8 (IOUTS=2)	Header	Character	"Densities"	N/A	header for electron densities	1 per record	
9 (IOUTS=2)	EDEN	Real	±X.XXE±XX	cm ⁻³	electron density corresponding to	5 per record	4
					altitude in record 11		

Notes:

The structure of the PRISM station output file after Record 2 depends on the content of Record 2.

2. For IOUTS=0, Record 4 is repeated NRECL times.

PRISM 1.4 does not actually compute F1 layer parameters, but future versions may do so.

This record is repeated until the contents of the data element have been exhausted. For IOUTS=1, Records 6-9 are repeated NRECL times.

For IOUTS=2, Records 6-11 are repeated NRECL times.

7. 1 TEC unit = 10^{12} cm⁻² = 10^{16} m⁻²

(No changes other than version number) 2 September 1994
26 September 1994 (records 2, and 3-11; notes 4-7)
3 November (File Name, on first page) 30 May 1995 (Version 1.5) Original document: revision 2: revision 3: revision 1:

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